

SENEBOGEN

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U.S. Troops Begin Official Withdrawal From Bosnia

TUZLA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — U.S. soldiers stationed in Bosnia as part of the NATO-led Peacekeeping Force (IFOR) on Wednesday officially began pulling out, with some 240 soldiers departing for Hungary, IFOR said.

The soldiers left in two convoys from the Croatian border town of Slavonko Brod after arriving from Bosnia earlier this week, an IFOR official at the town said.

(Contd on Pg. 10)

TEHRAN



TIMES

4-Page Special Issue Inside

16 PAGES; PRICE 200 RIALS

VOL. XVII, No. 156; THURSDAY OCTOBER 10, 1996; MEHR 19, 1375; JAMADIAL-AWAL 26, 1417

Damascus Calls For 'Direct' European Role in Peace Process

DAMASCUS — Syria called Wednesday for the European Union (EU) to play a direct role in the Middle East, complementary to that of the United States, to help create a just peace based on international law.

"The United States, sponsor of the peace process, must be responsible at a time when the region is under threat and Europe should participate directly in the process," Prime Minister Mahmud al-Zohbi said in statements published by the press.

(Contd on Pg. 10)

Rasooli Mahallati on Friday Prayer Leaders' Gathering

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The 12th annual gathering of Friday prayer leaders from all over the country concluded on Wednesday. The



meeting lasted for three days, during which different matters were discussed and several senior government officials addressed the audience.

The meeting is held every year in order to coordinate the activities and remove the problems linked to

(Contd on Pg. 10)

Leader Blasts U.S. for Supporting Latest Crimes of Zionists

TEHRAN — Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei blasted the U.S. support for the latest crimes of Israel against the oppressed and defenseless Palestinian people.

The Leader made the remarks while receiving a group of people here on Wednesday.

Ayatollah Khamenei underlined the need for unity and coordination among Muslim governments and nations to initiate a unified move against the U.S. and the Zionist regime.

The Leader said that Palestine was home to many historical civilizations and a center where great divine messengers hoisted the banner of monotheism. Therefore, he added, devastation of this holy land with such a historical background and installing a sham and fabricated state instead was impossible.

The generation, who surrendered Palestine to the Zionists was exterminated and the present compromising generation in Palestine is on the verge of collapse, said the



Photo: Abbas Kowari

Ayatollah, adding that thanks to their familiarity with Islam, today's generation in Palestine is the one who intends to do a great task

based on Islamic teachings which is expected from a Muslim nation.

(Contd on Pg. 10)

Afghan Factions Plan Fightback Against Taleban

KABUL — Once-bitter Afghan rivals on Wednesday sought an alliance against the Taleban militia which was reported to have suffered heavy losses in fighting for a key northern highway, sources said.

Taleban officials in Kabul played down the scope of fighting near the Salang Tunnel, but residents who reported seeing around 150 dead and wounded brought away from the battle said the militia had sent in reinforcements.

Ousted President Burhanuddin Rabbani and northern warlord Abdul Rashid Dostam, one-time enemies, held talks in Dostam's headquarters at Mazar-i-Sharif, a faction spokesman in Islamabad said.

The spokesman, Ghairat Baheer, is a representative for former Kabul Prime Minister Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, who was also meant to be at the talks but could not get to the northern town.

A representative of the Hezb-i-Wahdat group, headed by Abdul Ali Mazari, was also in Mazar-i-

Sharif for meetings with Dostam however, reports said.

Rabbani fled Kabul hours before the Taleban took the capital on September 27. He has since been chased into a small corner of northern Afghanistan by the Is-

(Contd on Pg. 10)

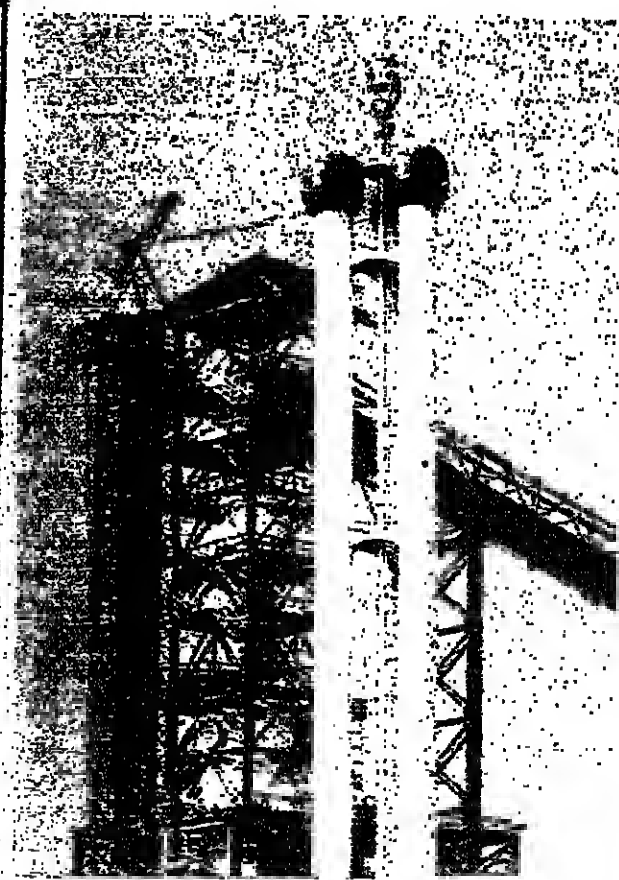
Turkey Condemns U.S. for 'Inadmissible' Statements

ANKARA — Turkey lashed out Wednesday at U.S. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns for the "inadmissible" remarks he made about a recent visit by Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan to Tripoli.

Scmct Atacanli, a spokesman for the Turkish Foreign Ministry, told reporters "We cannot accept certain statements from the American spokesman. They are inadmissible."

(Contd on Pg. 10)

Qa'em Project, a New Revolution in Sponge Iron Production Industry in the World



The Seminar on Production of Sponge Iron and Europe wrapped out its work in Milan, Italy amidst the incomparable welcome by the world experts and technicians of the technology of sponge iron production. The task under the name of Qa'em project, is supported by Isfahan Iron and Steelworks.

According to our reporter, over 170 experts from 30 countries participated in the two-day seminar to recognize the production of sponge iron and its use in arc furnace and steel production. Eleven of Iranian experts also participated in the seminar.

On the second day of the seminar, Dr. Qafari, the deputy chief of Plan and Budget Organization and Eng. Moutamen, the director manager of the product process of the Isfahan Iron and Steelworks Complex answered questions posed by some world experts on the technology of steel and sponge iron production. It was so interesting that the time allocated for question and answer was extended over 41 minutes.

Eng. Moutamen, the director manager of the product process of Isfahan Iron and

Steelworks told our reporter:

Due to the renovation of the project, many questions were posed by the participants. Experts from leading companies such as Midrex, Pruffer, H.V.L. Mannesmann de Mag, Danieli, etc. were also among the participants, who congratulated Islamic Republic of Iran for the success in the field. They also asked technical questions.

It should be noted that it was so hard for some to make believe that a consumer country like Iran was being introduced as an innovator of a new technology. One could grasp the fact from the questions they asked. The senior production manager said in a meeting with an Italian company namely Techint, that the new technology is in fact a revolution in sponge iron and steel production.



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Nejatollahi Ave. [former Villa]
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
Printed at Keyhan

In the Name of Allah

So he threw his
rod, then lo! it was
a clear serpent.
(HOLY QORAN) (7:107)

UN Envoy for
Tajikistan in
Tehran

TEHRAN — UN Special Envoy for Tajikistan, Gerd Meriem, arrived in Tehran on Tuesday for a week-long visit in preparation for the upcoming peace talks between the Tajik government and the opposition.

The new round of talks between Tajik President, Imomali Rakhmanov, and opposition leader, Abdullah Nouri, is to be held in Moscow in mid-October.

A UN official in Tehran, Effekhar Alikhan, told IRNA that Meriem would meet representatives of Tajik government and the opposition on Wednesday to draft a joint statement due to be issued after holding the Moscow meeting.

Saudis Call
For Good
Ties With Iran

TEHRAN — Saudi Minister of Interior Prince Nayef bin Abdulaziz said on Tuesday that Saudi officials desire "good neighborly relations with Islamic Iran."

In a meeting with Iranian Ambassador to Riyadh Hujjatolislam Mohammad Reza Nouri Shahrudi, he also stressed that Saudi Arabia counted on the Islamic Republic of Iran as an "important country in the region."

Shahrudi said in the meeting that Iran was prepared for cooperation with Saudi Arabia in the areas of mutual interest.

He added that Tehran-Riyadh cooperation would lead to peace and tranquility in the region and was an important step to oust foreign forces from the Persian Gulf.

(IRNA)

Japan Opposing Sanctions Against Iran

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — The avenues of expanding ties between Iran and Japan and the crucial regional and international issues were discussed at a meeting between Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Japanese Foreign Ministry's Director-General Ichiro Noboru here yesterday.

Referring to the cordial relations between the two countries,

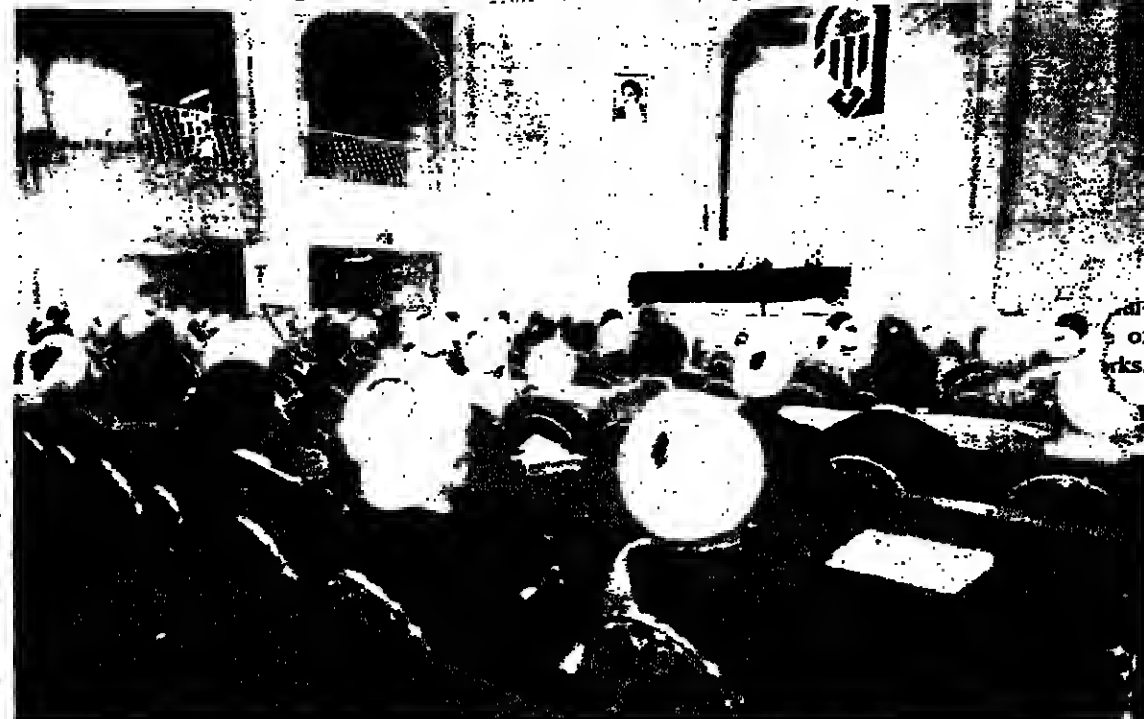
The statement went on to say that at present a group with extremist and unrealistic views are trying to implement their illogical and non-Islamic policies, in the name of Islam, to counter the true Islam by trampling the rights of Afghan people, women in particular.

The council in its statement urged the international community and Muslim women all over the world to voice their opposition to the humiliating moves against the Afghan women and to call for restoration of their due Islamic rights.

Ambassador Meets
Sudanese Speaker

KHARTOUM — Iranian Ambassador to Khartoum Mehdi Marvi here on Tuesday delivered an invitation from Iranian Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri to his Sudanese counterpart Hassan Torabi to attend a special sub-committee as a prelude to form an international Islamic parliament.

(IRNA)



TEHRAN (Oct. 9) — Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Nateq Nouri addresses the participants of the annual nationwide gathering of the Friday prayer leaders here Wednesday. In his speech, Nateq Nouri lauded President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani for his endeavors to implement infrastructural plans and called him Iran's contemporary Amir Kabir. The gathering of the country's Friday prayer leaders concluded yesterday.

Leader's Remark on Afghanistan,
Reflection of View of Islamic World

TEHRAN — The remarks of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei on measures being taken in Afghanistan under the name of Islam, is the view of the entire world of Islam and Islamic ummah, said a senior Foreign Ministry official here Wednesday.

"The Foreign Ministry of the Islamic Republic, too, believes that nobody in the world has the right to present as ugly the beautiful face of Islam," said Deputy Foreign Minister for Asia-Oceania Affairs Alaeddin Boroujerdi referring to the Monday remarks of the Leader on the prevailing situation in Afghanistan.

Boroujerdi added that from the viewpoint of human rights, Wash-

ington is responsible for what is happening in Afghanistan because it has created such a catastrophe through its dual approach and should be accountable for it before the international community.

The deputy foreign minister stressed that as a fundamental principle in its foreign policy, the Islamic Republic believes in good neighborly relations with all its neighbors including Afghanistan.

He expressed hope that by overcoming the present problems, Afghanistan will attain peace and tranquility and that the Muslim people of the country will be able to live in a peaceful atmosphere away from bloodshed and war.

(IRNA)

1,000 More
Refugees Enter
Iran

SANANDAJ, Kurdistan Province — Another 1,000 Iraqi Kurdish refugees entered Iran through Chaman border strip, in Baneh, western Iran on Tuesday.

A local official added Wednesday that due to unsuitable conditions of Chaman region, the refugees were immediately transferred to Siranband Camp in Baneh.

The latest batch of refugees brings to more than 46,000 the number of Iraqi refugees at Siranband and Baneh camps of the province.

In the light of the growing number of the Iraqi Kurdish refugees and arrival of more in the two camps, there is an urgent need for humanitarian assistance from international bodies, the official said.

(IRNA)

Malaysia for
Broadening of
Relations With Iran

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysian State Minister and Head of Religious Affairs Abdul Hamid Othman Tuesday called for bolstering of cultural and economic ties with Iran.

He made the remark in a meeting with the Iranian Ambassador in Malaysia Hussein Fereidoun, in which avenues for further promotion of Tehran-Kuala Lumpur relations were explored.

Praising the artistry of Islamic craftsmen and their tile work and mirror work at Kuala Lumpur's communication tower, he called for a more active cooperation of Iranian artists in decorating Malaysia's Islamic buildings.

The Iranian ambassador also voiced Iran's readiness to actively participate in Malaysia's construction projects especially in building Islamic centers.

(IRNA)

Mirsalim Stresses Reliance on
Iranian-Islamic Values

TEHRAN — Minister of Culture and Islamic Guidance Mostafa Mirsalim here Tuesday said that reliance on the Iranian-Islamic identity is the means of countering cultural inroad of the enemies.

Speaking at the gathering of the Friday prayer leaders, the minister added that the propaganda methods and tactics of the enemies should be identified and fought against in a proper manner.

Referring to the ulama as the guardians of the Islamic values, he said support and efforts of scholars, writers, artists and the devout champions of the country will reinforce the campaign to safeguard the Islamic values.

(IRNA)



OPINION

Afghanistan in Turmoil

Afghanistan is in the grip of uncertainty as various factions brace for power.

Unfortunately the Afghan factions have not learned a lesson from the recent past. No Afghan faction will be able to rule over Afghanistan while excluding other groups.

Reportedly, the Taliban is brandishing arms against the forces of Ahmad Shah Masoud, Rabbani and Dostum. The fortifications of the Masoud-Rabbani forces in and around the Panjshir Valley, and those of General Abdul-Rashid Dostam in the north, especially at the Salang Tunnel, are not likely to collapse easily. As a result, a great number of civilians and non-civilians will perish in the ensuing conflict.

Unfortunately, even if Taliban overcomes its opponents, there is no guarantee that peace would prevail. In other words, that would not be the end to the bloodshed and fratricide. On the contrary, if the Taliban succeed in taking over the positions held by Ahmad Shah, Rabbani and Dostum force—not an easy task—that would be the beginning of another protracted civil war.

At present, there is no opposition to the Taliban rule in the areas they have captured, especially in rural areas where the public is illiterate and backward. Over the past two decades, the civil war has exacerbated the condition of rural Afghan women. They may not be aware of the havoc the Taliban will wreak with their fate, in the name of Islam.

Once Afghans realize that the kind of Islam the Taliban are introducing is quite contrary to genuine Islam, they will join the opposition.

Therefore, the Taliban have two options: (1) Preparing a congenial ground for the participation of all Afghan forces in the administration of the country. For this, they would have to bid farewell to what they call 'Islamic Law', and return to genuine Islamic teachings; (2) Shoulder the responsibility for further bloodshed.

There is no conciliation between genuine Islam and subservience to the United States. The Taliban should articulate their stance on relations with the U.S. and the Zionist regime. Only then would regional countries be able to take a stand with respect to the Taliban.

Women Council Condemns Taliban for Violating Afghan Women Rights

TEHRAN — The Cultural-Social Council of Iranian Women condemned on Wednesday the measures taken by the Taliban in violating the rights of Afghan women.

In a statement issued here, the council said that the world arrogance now has adopted a strategy

to create division among Islamic nations and states to halt introduction of the true Islam.

Big powers are trying their best to prevent implementation of the Islamic laws, which are rich enough to meet all needs of the human beings, the statement added.

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Opportunities Abound in Africa's Oil and Gas Industries

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Africa offers huge potential for international oil and gas corporations seeking new suppliers and markets, participants at an international conference said in Cape Town, South Africa, AFP reported.

Major energy industry players, from the private and state sectors, are taking advantage of new political and economic forces on the continent, speakers said.

Some industry specialists, however, sounded warnings about difficulties that still lie ahead for Africa's energy industries.

In a keynote address, John Greensmith, Managing Director of BP Africa, noted that while Europe and the United States consumed more than 70 percent of the world's daily oil supply in the 1950s, now its consumption constitutes less than half the world total, with the far east growing strongly.

In the United States there are three cars for every four people, while in China and Africa, Greensmith said, only one in every 200 has a car. Africa consumes only three percent of the

world's oil and gas, Greensmith added.

"The link between income level and car ownership is very clear," he said, "and this is just one of the statistics that suggest Africa offers huge potential for our industry as economic reforms start to raise incomes and living standards."

Greensmith however pointed to a number of obstacles in the way of growth and trade, including "excessive" government regulations on private industry.

The conference ended Tuesday, a day earlier than scheduled, because some speakers had not arrived, and other participants were concerned about a South African Airways labor dispute affecting flights to and from the country.

A lack of infrastructure in Africa inhibits economic development, and transport delays and road hazards are a major African concern, Greensmith said.

However, increased cooperation between governments and industries, and renewed interest from the international investment community contribute to a rosy outlook for Africa, he added.

That view was echoed by Iqbal Rahim, a former trade general manager for France's total group who now heads the Galana Group of Companies involved in trading and marketing oil in Africa.

Rahim likened Africa's new opportunities to "the visit of Halley's Comet which happens to visit Earth once every 70 years. (It) is not expected to recur in the near future."

Mobil Nigeria Chairman James Massey said in a written statement that the West African country's confidence in the oil industry "is being translated into plans that will require the investment of billions of dollars over the next few years."

Exhibition on Civil Engineering Books Opens

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The Center for Housing Research, affiliated to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, has held an exhibition on civil engineering here.

The exhibition which was inaugurated on Monday by Minister of Housing and Urban Development runs through 16 October.

A good number of foreign books on civil engineering, housing, and seismology are on display at the exhibition.

Malaysian NGOs Join Launch on Worldwide Boycott

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Malaysian Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs) were among the 300 consumer, health and trade organizations from 45 nations in Washington yesterday to launch a worldwide boycott of genetically-engineered soybeans and corn produced in the U.S. by Monsanto and Ciba-Geigy, an IRNA-Bernama dispatch reported.

President of the (U.S.) Friends of the Earth, Brent Blackwelder, in opposing sale of the altered soybeans said, "we will fight efforts to market genetically altered crops without proper labels."

Eurocommerce - a trade association representing one-third of all European business enterprises - vows to boycott U.S. soybeans or soy-derived products unless Monsanto's genetically engineered soybean is clearly separated and labelled.

The new soya 'superbean' is expected to hit the world market around this month and it contains an introduced gene from a bacterium which makes them resistant to the herbicide glyphosate, best known as the weedkiller roundup. Farmers can spray their crops with roundup, killing weeds but leaving the soya unaffected, making the

growing of soybeans easier, cheaper and more profitable.

Meanwhile, the European Union is threatening to block U.S. exports of the genetically-engineered corn, developed by Ciba, the Swiss-based chemicals group. The corn is said to be resistant to the European corn borer, a devastating crop pest.

U.K. authorities fear that the modified corn could confer antibiotic resistance to animals that eat it unprocessed, while Austria, Denmark and Sweden are worried about the environmental impact of the modified corn.

The Malaysian groups opposing sale of the modified soybean and corn are pesticide action network, Peoples Trans-Actions, Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development, Education and Research Association for Consumers, Third World Network, and Consumers Association of Penang.

Scientists at the University of Nebraska at Lincoln said tests proved that soybeans modified with genes from Brazil nuts to produce a nutritious protein found in the nuts also produced proteins that set off a strong, potentially deadly allergic reaction in people

Oil Price to Remain Strong, Minister Says

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Indonesian Minister for Mines and Energy Idris Sudjana believes that the price of oil in the international market will remain strong until end of the year.

"The price of crude oil is indeed being affected by the political situation in the Middle East," Sudjana said in Jakarta yesterday after signing contracts on profit-sharing and technical assistance, an IRNA-Bernama dispatch reported.

He also said that the increasing demand from the United States and other developed countries, not to mention decreasing productions in the North Sea, may result in reduced supplies in the international market.

Nuclear Generator to Shed 1,500 Jobs in Britain

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - British Energy, the newly-privatized operator of Britain's most modern nuclear reactors, announced on Wednesday that it plans to shed 1,460 jobs over the next three years, to achieve annual cost savings of 50 million pounds (75 million dollars), an AFP dispatch reported.

Chief executive Robert Hawley said: "We will continue our drive to reduce costs and improve overall efficiency to ensure we are competitive with other forms of generation in the UK."

But he maintained that the job cuts, which will reduce the company's workforce by over 20 percent, "will be against a background of never compromising on our total commitment to safety."

British Energy said that the cost savings would entail a one-off restructuring cost of 100 million pounds.

Trade unions reacted angrily to the job cuts and said they would resist any attempt to make workers compulsorily redundant.

World oil-producing states, which strictly follow the oil production ceiling, also contribute to reduced oil supplies, he added.

The price of crude oil in the world market stands at \$22 per barrel.

The contracts, which totalled \$203.9 million, were signed by Pertamina and five companies namely Chevron Sibolga Ltd, Santa Fe Energy Resources, Asamera Ltd, Eurafrep Resources BV and Canadian Petroleum Indonesia Ltd.

The two contracts on technical assistance were signed by Pertamina and Pilon Petro Tanjung Lontar Ltd and PT Gas Asta Tunggal.

Energy spokesman for the public sector union Unison, Mike Jeram, said: "We are fed up with staff being treated as dividend fodder."

"This is a disgraceful way to treat workers. Yet again we have privatization followed swiftly by job cuts as the company seeks to keep up profits and satisfy the voracious appetites of shareholders."

British Energy was floated on the London Stock Exchange on July 15. It is the holding company for nuclear electric, which operates power stations in England and Wales, and Scottish Nuclear, which runs stations in Scotland.

After the job cuts, it will employ a total of 4,800 workers at its eight nuclear reactors.

Unison and the opposition Labour Party said that the cuts would

Iran Contributed \$11m to Tajikistan in 5 Years

TEHRAN - Iran's Ambassador in Tajikistan, Ali Ashraf Mojtahed Shabestari, said in Dushanbe Tuesday that the Islamic Republic has contributed about \$11 million of assistance in kind and in cash to Tajikistan during the past five years.

The ambassador made the remark addressing the 2-day international seminar of countries assisting Tajikistan, attended by representatives from 15 countries and several international organizations.

Iran started to dispatch its economic, humanitarian and cultural assistance to the country before the outbreak of the civil war there, he said.

Mojtahed Shabestari added that \$10 million of Iran's aid

was donated to the war refugees and the needy regardless of their race and political attachments.

Since 1995 \$1 million in cash and in kind have been sent to the needy Tajik families by Imam Khomeini's Relief Committee, he said adding more than 10,000 families are covered by the committee and some 150 cultural and health centers benefit from its assistance.

He cited training courses for the Tajiks in the fields of banking, customs, diplomacy and trade as other services offered by the Islamic Republic.

Mojtahed Shabestari said that Iran's contribution to the Tajikistan peace talks and signing of the cease-fire agreement in Tehran are signs of Tehran's political goodwill in resolving crisis in that country.

Iran, Armenia to Cooperate in Housing

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Armenian Minister of Urban Development F. Pirman said in Esfahan Tuesday that Iran and Armenia will cooperate in construction of quake-resistant buildings.

The minister who is currently in Iran added that the two countries will upgrade relations by signing a letter of understanding on regional cooperation and exchange of experiences in various fields relating to seismography and topography, IRNA reported.

Conditions will also be created to enable the construction companies and contractors to further bolster Tehran-Yerevan cooperation.

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تلفون: ۳۱۱۴۵۲۴

NEW BOOK:

A Linguistic Approach Towards the Holy Qoran: Literary Patterns- (Un)translatabilities

Tehran Times Service

The Publications House of the Imam Hossein University, affiliated to the Islamic Republic of Iran's Guard Corps (Sepah Pasdaran) has recently published a very comprehensive scientific survey on the art of translation of the Holy Qoran.

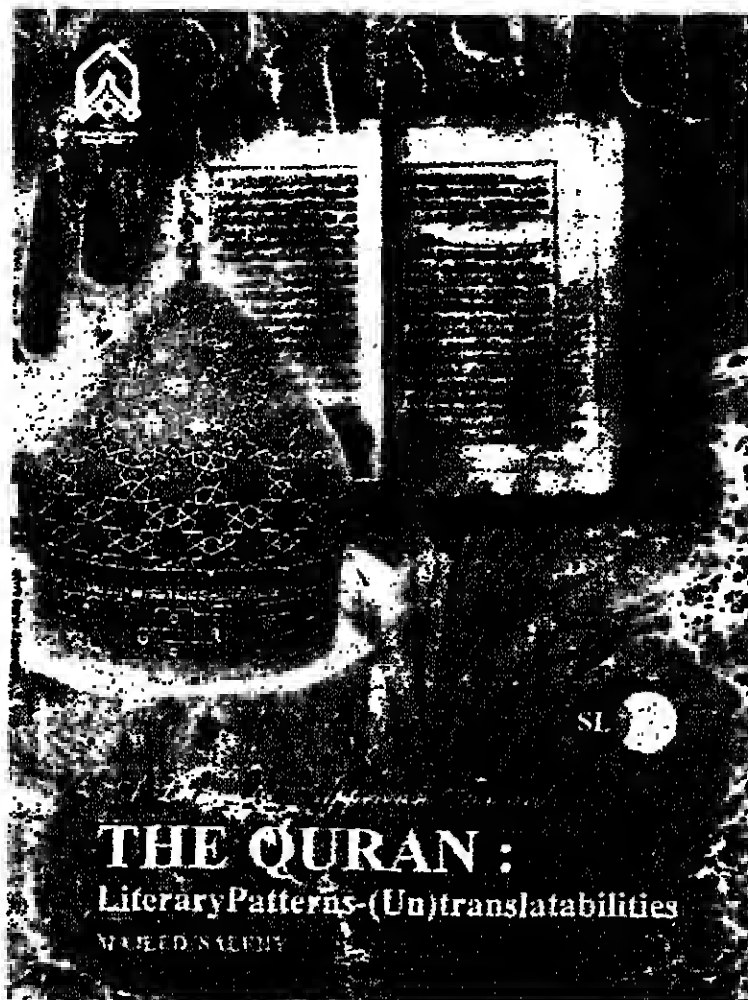
The book, originally written in English, is the thirty sixth book printed by Imam Hossein University and the first in the new series entitled "Islamic sciences Series."

The author of the book, Majid Salehi, has acknowledged the honor of compiling his very scholarly work to the eternal memory of the late Imam Khomeini, three of his professors, his martyred brother, and all his students— "The kindest sources of motivation to me."

In the first chapter of the book, under the title "Hypotheses" the author poses two general reasons why the Holy Qoran doesn't yield to translation:

"The Qoran is untranslatable into other languages, because it is full of literary patterns and it is impossible to observe translation equivalency with regard to those factors and patterns which cause a text to be a literary work and give prominence to that."

The second hypothesis suggests that "the literary color of the Meccan surahs is considerably



more than that of the Medinan surahs... Consequently we are facing more problems in translating Meccan verses."

The 304 page book, comprising six chapters, is priced 15,000 rials, and discusses such interest-

ing issues as "A Short History of the Qoran Translation", "Linguistic, Cultural, Collocational and Stylistic Untranslatability of the Holy Qoran", "Metaphor in English, Persian and in Qoran", and "Ambiguity" in these three.

Singaporean Businessman Mastermind Behind Paintings Theft

JAKARTA — A Singaporean businessman is wanted as the mastermind behind the August theft of at least 25 paintings from Indonesia's National Museum, police said Saturday.

The robbery has caused an uproar about the safety of the country's poorly guarded museums and other cultural treasures.

Michael Lee, chief executive of a subsidiary of Indonesia's Dharmala Group, attracted attention when he tried to sell two of the paintings at Christie's Auction House. He returned five paintings last month, saying he had bought them without knowing they were stolen.

But police found 17 others at Lee's rented Jakarta house and believe he paid four museum employees 21.5 million rupiah (\$9,350) to steal them, said police spokesman Brig. Gen. Nurfaldi.

The canvases include works by Indonesia's most prominent artists — the 19th century painter Raden Sarief Bastaman Salch, portraitist Basuki Abdullah and contemporary painter Affandi. Three are still missing.

Nurfaldi wouldn't give any details, but the Jakarta Post newspaper said Lee was believed to be hiding in Singapore.

An official of the Dharmala Group refused to give any information.

National Police Chief Lt. Gen. Dityo Widodo was quoted as saying Friday he was hoping for co-operation from Singapore. The two countries don't have an extradition treaty.

"We hope to get the suspect for trial here," the post quoted Dityo as saying. (AP)

Controversial Paintings Withdrawn From Auction

SINGAPORE — Auction House Christie's International Singapore Pte. Ltd. has withdrawn two Indonesian paintings scheduled to be sold here next month after reports said they were stolen from a museum in Jakarta.

"As questions have been raised about the paintings, we are withdrawing them from the sale," Irene Lee, general manager for Christie's International Singapore, was quoted as saying by the Straits Times daily Monday.

Lee said she learnt about the theft only after Indonesian newspapers reported it last week.

She was not immediately available for further comment on the fate of the two paintings.

The oil paintings in question are Raden Saleh's "portrait of a Dutch governor wearing the Willem order" dated 1867, and famous portrait painter Basoeki Abdullah's undated work "An Unclad Girl."

They were among 160 south-east Asian works worth a total of about 3.4 million Singapore dollars (\$2.42) scheduled to go under the hammer at a hotel here October 6.

According to recent Indonesian press reports, the paintings were stolen from the National Museum in Jakarta. They were reportedly owned by the Indonesian government and kept temporarily at the museum.

"I simply want the canvases returned to the original owner, that is to the Jakarta National Museum," said Nataya Nareerat, widow of the late Basuki Abdullah, whose painting was one of the two allegedly stolen artworks, the Jakarta Post daily reported.

The Indonesian newspaper quoted an unnamed police source in Jakarta as saying the two paintings were among six stolen from the National Museum, without giving the date of the theft.

The source said the paintings had been sent overseas while the suspected thieves were thought to still be in Indonesia. (AP)



Pourahmad, a Director for All Genres

Synopsis:

A pair of twin sisters are separated shortly after birth due to their parents' divorce, each under the custody of one parent.

After elapse of eight years, these two meet at a vocational student campus where top students from several schools have gathered. Extreme similarity between all the physical and personality features of these two amazes them greatly and after a while they solve the puzzle of their denied relationship.

The adventures these two eight-year olds go through to make their parents reunite, despite the differences that still exist between their parents and the new problems, one of them being their father's fiancée, create a series of very interesting events, that in the context of

Review:

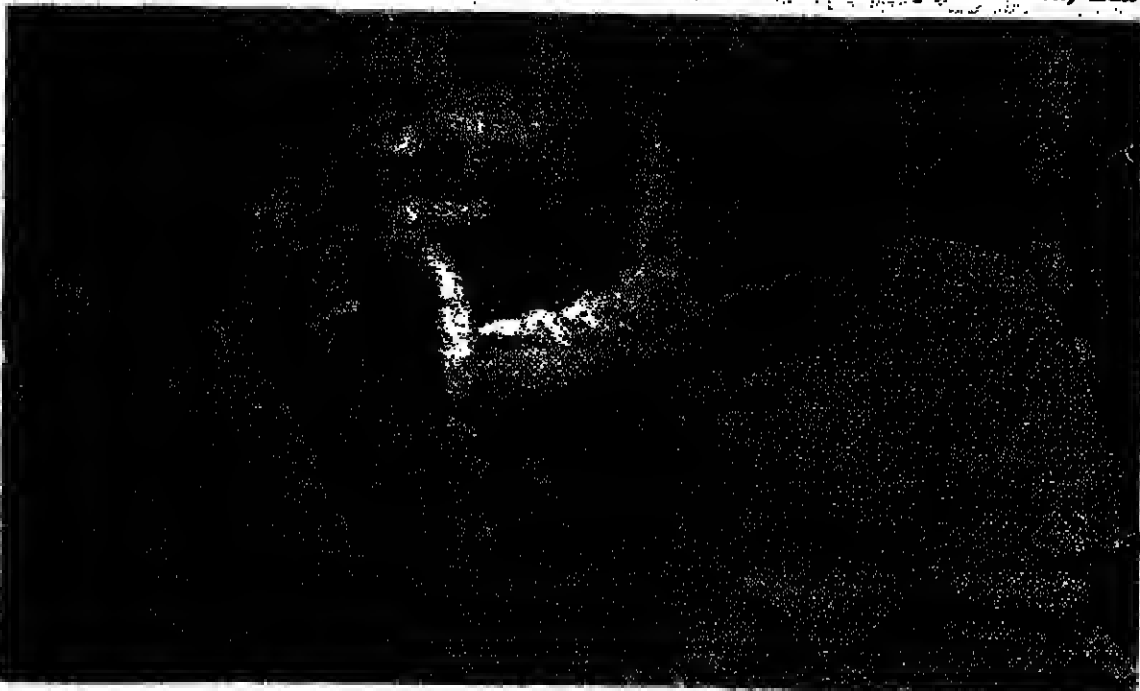
Kioumars Pourahmad received last year's Fajr International Film Festival's award for the best director for this beautiful film, and Afshar Bughra the prize for the best first role actress.

Kioumars Pourahmad began his career as a director with his T.V series Qesseh Haay-e Majid (Majid's Stories) and ever since then he has directed five full length features, most in the children's genre. He is very successful in getting perfect performances from amateur children and young adults. Yet, the man's lifetime preoccupation has been directing a T.V police serial. That is what he is recently busy with, and since he has thought about it for a lifetime, and gained enough experience to work on it as a good professional

business, including writing, directing, editing, set design and even composing the film music by himself! Now whether this is due to economical reasons or his very personal taste, is a question that the gentleman has to answer himself.

The "Alien Sisters" is made based on one of the novels of Erich Kestner, the German author, although it is a totally Persian version of the work. This novel had already been used by another good Iranian director, Kianoush Ayyazi, in his film *Do Nimeye Sib* (The Two Halves of an Apple), although in that film the twins were in their twenties.

*** *** ***
Cast: Khoustow Shakhbazi, Afshar Bughra.
Film script: Direction: Edit-

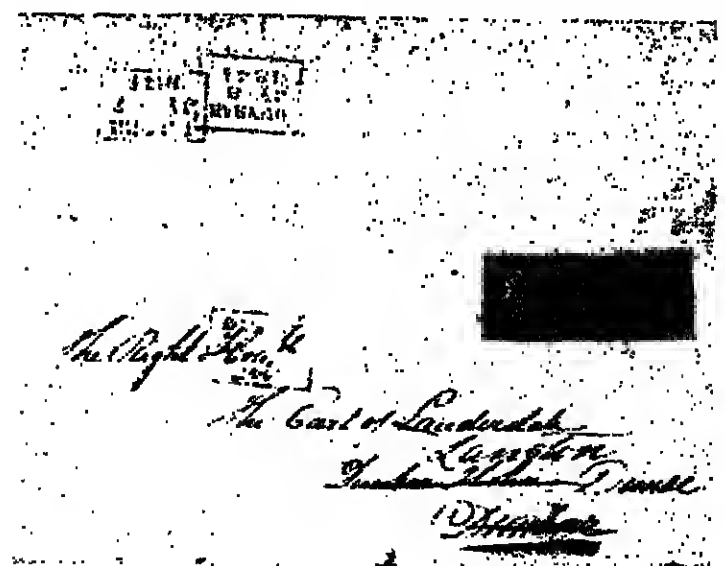


this very cheerful musical, all in all create a very successful full length family feature, which is to be considered Pourahmad's most successful film after his six previous experiences, all in the children's genre.

director, it is expected to turn out flying colors.

The other particularity of this good director, and one of the reasons we would call him "a man for all seasons" is that he prefers to do all the different jobs in the cinema

*** Khoustow Shakhbazi
Pourahmad's filmography:
Langarachi (The Port), *Ta-toureh*, *Behshahr-e Haaniyeh* (For Haniyeh's Sake), *Naano She'r* (Bread and Poem), and *Sharm* (Shame).



LONDON, United Kingdom: Photo of the world's first three adhesive postage stamps were sold for £135,000 October 8 at Christie's to an unknown buyer. The three stamps; a Penny Black, a Two Pence Blue, and a Penny Red are attached to a letter believed to be the only example known to bear the world's first three adhesive stamps and is considered one of the most important documents of Britain's postal history. The price was below Christie's estimate of 150,000 to 200,000.

(AFP PHOTO)

SUPA Awarded ISO 9001

SUPA is the first and the only major manufacturer of medical devices in a non OECD country to be accredited to the quality standard ISO 9001.

In a speech highlighting the ISO 9001 award ceremony, H. Derakhshani, managing director, acknowledged the valuable contribution of each and every one of SUPA's 1500 personnel and called on them to be prepared for the still greater challenges ahead.

He proudly proclaimed the certificate, which applies to the entire range of SUPA's 500 different

products, not only as an exceptional achievement and a vindication of SUPA's leading position in the medical devices but as a victory for the Iranian people.

The men and women of SUPA, who are justly proud to have achieved this historic effort, are worthy of still greater recognition for their company's growth in the years to come. They have pledged themselves to keep SUPA

First in quality
First in service
First in care

SPORTS SUMMARY

(Tehran Times Service)

SOCCER

BOLOGNA — Croatia swept to a convincing 4-1 victory over Bosnia Hercegovina here in an historic group one world cup qualifier.

The two nations, who were allies but also enemies at times during the conflict in former Yugoslavia, played out a tense encounter at the Dall'ara Stadium.

Slaven Bilic opened the scoring after 14 minutes after Boban's Cross, and although Bosnia levelled through Hasan Salihamidzic, Vlaovic put the Croats back on top. Juventus star Alen Boksic, anonymous in the first half then hit a brace.

In group five, ten-man Bulgaria just squeezed past Luxembourg, winning 2-1 in the Grand Duchy. Krasimir Balakov and Emil Kostadinov were both on target, while roby lingers hit a consolation in between. Bulgaria's Vassilev was dismissed on the hour for a second bookable offence.

LONDON: Swedish striker Tomas Brolin, on loan with Zurich after an unhappy spell with Leeds, will this week fly back to Yorkshire for talks with manager George Graham after an ultimatum from the Premiership Club.

Former Parma star Brolin, 26, had refused to return to Eland road to play for injury-hit united after the expiry of his one-month arrangement with the Swiss. But Brolin caved in after Leeds threatened to ask FIFA to slap a global ban on him unless he returned immediately.

Graham wants Brolin back to ease an injury crisis which has hit strikers Tony Yeboah, Ian Rush, Brian Deane and on-loan Mark Hateley.

PRAGUE: Spain coach Javier Clemente has finally decided to give Real Madrid's teenage star Raul Gonzalez his debut in a bid to add much-needed firepower for Wednesday night's World Cup qualifier against European 96 finalists Czech Republic.

The 19-year-old, who scored twice against the Czechs in the quarter-finals of last season's European under-21 competition, is Real Madrid's top scorer despite being moved into a supporting role by new coach Fabio Capello.

LONDON: Striker John Spencer flew home from Scotland's World Cup camp at Tallinn amid alleged problems at Ruud Gullit's Chelsea.

Spencer returned to London with a hamstring injury which keeps him out of the Scots' European World Cup group four qualifier with Estonia.

Gullit has allegedly put him on the transfer list in the wake of an alleged row after a recent game at Liverpool.

CYCLING

PARIS: Lance Armstrong, the 1993 World Road Race Cycling champion, revealed he had testicular cancer and would be undergoing chemotherapy.

The 25-year-old, who has returned home to Texas, has told his Cofidis team he intends to be back for the end of the 1997 season.

"I am determined to fight the illness and to beat it," Armstrong said.

Armstrong has undergone surgery to remove a tumour but a scanner revealed the cancer has spread to his lower abdomen and he will now have chemotherapy for a minimum of 12 weeks.

He has been told he has between a 70 and 90 per cent chance of fully recovering.

DUBLIN: The Irish Government agreed to find the two million pounds needed to fund the prologue and the two opening stages of the Tour De France after drawing up a package of contributions from four ministries.

Tourism Minister Enda Kenny announced the costs would be spread over two years. "The Tour De France is one of the world's great annual sporting events and the promotional possibilities for Ireland arising from the tour would be significant," Kenny said.

The Societe Tour De France has already invited Ireland to stage the start of the tour, although a formal decision has still to be made.

TENNIS

LONDON: The United States were drawn away to Brazil in an intriguing first round Davis Cup tie after the draw for the 1997 competition was made here.

The Brazilians were involved in a bitter dispute with Austria in their world group qualifying match last month, when the visitors' Thomas Muster claimed he had been spat on, had objects thrown at him and was put off by mirrors from the Sao Paolo crowd.

The International Tennis Federation found there was no concrete proof of what happened and took no action against the host country, but fined the Austrians 58,000 dollars for refusing to finish the tie.

Sweden and France, this year's finalists, had dramatically contrasting draws. The Swedes will host Switzerland but the French have to travel to Australia.

African Nations Cup Collated Results

JOHANNESBURG — Collated results of first round African Nations' Cup qualifying group matches at the weekend:

GROUP ONE:

Ghana 2 Angola 1 Sudan 0 Zimbabwe 3

Standings (tabulate under played, won, drawn, lost, goals for, against, points):

Zimbabwe	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Ghana	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Angola	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Sudan	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

GROUP TWO:

Algeria 4 Ivory Coast 1 Benin 1 Mali 2

Standings:

Algeria	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Mali	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Benin	1	0	0	1	1	2	3
Ivory Coast	1	0	0	1	1	4	3

GROUP THREE:

Egypt 1 Morocco 1 Ethiopia 1 Senegal 2

Standings:

Senegal	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Egypt	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Morocco	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Ethiopia	1	0	0	1	1	2	0

GROUP FOUR:

Central African Republic 2 Guinea 3 Tunisia 2 Sierra Leone 0

Standings:

Tunisia	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Guinea	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Central African Republic	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
Sierra Leone	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

GROUP FIVE:

Gabon 0 Cameroon 0 Namibia 1 Kenya 0

Standings:

Namibia	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Cameroon	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Gabon	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Kenya	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

GROUP SIX:

Togo 2 Tanzania 1 Zaire 0 Liberia 0

Standings:

Togo	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Liberia	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Zaire	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Tanzania	1	0	0	1	1	2	0

GROUP SEVEN:

Mauritius 1 Malawi 2 Zambia 1 Mozambique 0

Standings:

Malawi	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Zambia	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Mauritius	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Mozambique	1	0	0	1	0	1	0

The top two teams in each group progress to the finals in Burkina Faso in 1998 along with the hosts and South Africa, the defending champions. The next round of matches is January 24-26, 1997.

(Reuters)



MONTEVIDEO, Uruguay: Uruguayan forward Marcelo Otero (7) gets past Bolivian defender Marco Sandy October during their game at Centenario Stadium in Montevideo. The game is a qualification match for the France 98 World Cup.

(AFP PHOTO)

Understanding Kung Fu as Described by a Master

By Ja'far Qasempour Jahangir

What Is Kung Fu?

(Part 9)

In spite of great development during one and a half centuries, it is hardly accepted that Shaolin's fame on his methods has been faded out. A secluded person named Chang Sun-Feng accelerated this process through his influence. One of the followers of Confucius called Chang, who lived during the last period of Sung dynasty (1127-1279 A.D.) — although many believe that he lived within middle period (5th century) of Sung dynasty — was a judge in Chang-Sun region. Chang innovated one the most common systems of internal kung fu under the title of 'Taei Chee Chiwan' and perhaps the said system has brought about his fame since a long period ago. Giving up the attacking methods of Shaolin, he created a defensive method based on life philosophy of the Chinese. There are many reasons to justify his finding. Some believe he was kept by the new thought when he was sleeping, while some others say his encounter with the struggle of two wild animals one afternoon in his yard sparked the thought.

The story goes: During his daily exercise, Chang was caught by a strange noise. Looking up he saw a snake hissing for fight with a crane who was sitting on a twig, high atop the tree.



She was landing down the tree one and again, beating the snake each time. The snake, however, was creeping away or twisting hard around her leg for revenge. Chang-Sun Feng was deeply attracted by the scene. He realized that he had achieved one of basic principles of Chinese trainings i.e. 'for victory, pretend you have defeated' through observing.

When he witnessed the snake's twisting, Chang remembered the advice of Tatuoi Ching and Eye-Chang saying: Nothing is clearer than water in Heaven. To attack harsh enemies, leniency is the best means of fighting.

The oppressed topple the oppressors and mildness overcomes asperity. Chang Sun-Feng made Shaolin's methods moderate. In other words, he changed the attacking methods, Ni-Chia, into defensive ones which some called as the first defensive methods of kung fu. In a temple named White Cloud located at western mountains of Beijing, Chang trained his disciples the Chi Eye-Kung exercises (exercises of internal system). Later, he did the same in Hoo-Pi Eye Province, Weo-Tang Mountains. The author of Gee Eye-Ming in a book entitled 'Weo-Tang Chiwang-Soomi-Choud' published in 1928 claims, "Some parts of Chang's main writings are available." In his book, he also refers to the different principles of internal and external systems. The external system deals with breathing instructions, strengthening bones and muscles, ability for attack and defense, and combining harshness with calmness. The internal system puts great emphasis on strengthening bones and muscles, Chi Eye-Kung exercises, calming the attacker, and defeating the enemy by assaulting.

The internal system along with development of Tee Eye-Tezo and Wieh Ah-Fee-Eye gave Shaolin more fame and influence which remained during the whole period of South Sung dynasty of northern China, 'Wioan', and 'Wyle' of Mig dynasty. Many conspiracies were planned to devalue Shaolin's arts. The influential individuals in Shaolin Temple succeeded to find out many things concerning Buddhist secluded persons' martial mysteries. It was forbidden to train these mysteries to non-Buddhist people. Hence, it was too difficult for them to keep the mysteries among themselves.

Handwritten text in a box, possibly a signature or a note.

Aziz: Baghdad Ready for Kurd Self-Rule Talks

BAGHDAD -- Iraq's Deputy Prime Minister Tareq Aziz said on Tuesday Baghdad had extended Kurdish faction leader Massoud Barzani an open invitation for talks on Kurdish self-rule in northern Iraq.

Aziz said Baghdad, which helped Barzani take control of Iraq's three northern provinces last month and oust rival Jalal Talabani, was seeking a political solution after five years of virtual Kurdish autonomy under a Western-policed no-fly-zone.

"The call for dialogue exists," Aziz told a meeting of Iraqi expatriates in Baghdad. "It does not need to be announced. It is known."

But he said it was up to Barzani to take the initiative and suggested Baghdad was in no hurry.

"The matter is up to the brothers there and the political leadership in the north," Aziz said.

"When it finds itself ready to enter talks with the leadership in Baghdad -- and Baghdad is their city, their capital -- they are wel-

come," he added. "The Iraqi leadership's program for a peaceful political solution... hasn't changed."

Iraqi troops helped Barzani's Kurdish Democratic Party capture the northern city of Arbil from Talabani in August.

The United States, saying Baghdad was intervening against one of its minorities, launched punitive missile strikes and United Nations Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali put a long-awaited oil-for-food deal on hold.

Aziz said the United Nations was delaying the agreement to appease Washington, which has already announced it will oppose Boutros-Ghali's reappointment at the end of his five-year term.

Aziz said Iraqi Foreign Minister Mohammed Saeed al-Sahhaf, lobbying at the UN headquarters in New York for the deal to be carried out, could not get an appointment with any of Boutros-Ghali's assistants.

(Reuters)

Iraq Accuses Ciller of Trying to Help U.S., Israel

BAGHDAD -- Iraq on Wednesday accused Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller of trying to stir up international concern for Iraq's Turkoman minority for the benefit of both Israel and the United States.

"Raising the problem of minorities will open files likely to provoke wars which would tear apart the region in a way that would achieve a Zionist plan," the official *Ath-Thawra* newspaper said.

"Raising the problem of protecting Turkomans is also to give an excuse" to the U.S.-led allies to base warplanes in Turkey that patrol a no-fly zone in northern Iraq, it said.

Baghdad says it has robbed the United States, Britain and France of an excuse to continue the patrols after its new Kurdish allies gained control of northern Iraq last month.

The three allies set up the no-fly zone to protect the Kurds following their rebellion in the wake of the 1991 Persian Gulf war.

In September, Ciller urged the international community not to neglect the suffering of the Turkomans and expressed the hope that this Iraqi minority of Turkish origin would play a role in any political process in northern Iraq.

The Turkomans are Iraq's third largest ethnic group after

Arabs and Kurds.

The Iraqi press has made no comment meanwhile on Turkish air strikes against a Turkish Kurd separatist camp within northern Iraq, which Turkish television reported on Tuesday.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

DAMASCUS...

Zohbi said the Likud-led government of Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "violated commitments" by the previous Labor administration and "revived traditional Zionist rhetoric in favor of expansion, settlement and occupation of Arab land."

The official *Ath-Thawra* newspaper said European and Russian roles in the region are urgently needed and "indispensable" for assisting that of Washington, which launched the peace process together with Moscow in 1991.

"There is a genuine European desire to make the process succeed to establish a just and honorable peace based on international law, which would protect the interests of all the parties," the newspaper said.

The EU sent Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring, whose country currently holds the presidency of the European body, to the region on Saturday to stress the EU's desire "to work in partnership with the United States" because they both "have a constructive role to play" in the Middle East.

On Monday, the government newspaper *Tishrin* said, "Syria and the Arabs have always welcomed the efforts of Europe and have since the Madrid Peace Conference (in 1991) tried to have Europe adopt a more effective role."

The United States and Israel reject the concept of an active role for the Europeans in the Arab-Israeli negotiations.

According to U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, the EU should stick to its role as the major financial donor to the Palestinian Authority.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

LEADER...

The bright tokens of this great task could be witnessed in Palestine today, the Leader added.

Ayatollah Khamenei also said that the revolutionary and Muslim Iranian people is ready to offer any support to the Palestinian nation, but the Muslim Palestinian nation itself should be present in the scene.

The Leader said that causing tension, discord and war is a satanic move done by the U.S.

Hands of the U.S. and its satanic allies are clearly visible anywhere that war, bloodshed and fratricide are underway today, pointed out the Leader.

Concluding his remarks, the Leader said that scores became homeless and a large number of others killed as a result of the U.S. sowing discord and rivalry among the Kurds in northern Iraq, while it is pursuing the same satanic policy in other parts of the world.

(IRNA)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

AFGHAN...

Islamic warriors who now control about three-quarters of the country.

Dostam, an ethnic Uzbek who was a general in the communist regime that collapsed in 1992, controls six northern provinces and is now the main block against the Taliban.

Dostam and Rabbani had not met since the Uzbek warlord staged an attempted coup against Rabbani in January 1994, and then formed an alliance with Hekmatyar. Hekmatyar returned to Kabul to become prime minister in June.

A Rabbani aide in New Delhi, Masood Khalili, was reported as saying the talks since Tuesday had concentrated on reorganizing forces for a counter-attack.

Baheer, a former Afghan ambassador to Islamabad, said that even though Hekmatyar was not present, the talks between Rabbani and Dostam could be acceptable to the former prime minister.

He said Hekmatyar still planned to meet Dostam but did not give a date.

Dostam controls the Salang Tunnel which is now holding up the Taliban advance north.

The Salang Highway, which links north and south Afghanistan, was closed for much of Tuesday because of heavy fighting in which residents reported "very heavy" Taliban casualties.

"I counted over 30 jeeps carrying about 150 dead bodies and wounded Taliban arriving in Jibul Seraj," said one resident.

Residents said they saw 12 tanks and armored vehicles heading for the tunnel Wednesday.

Taliban commanders closed the highway to journalists. But from Jibul Seraj, 77 kilometers (48 miles) north of Kabul, other vehicles could pass Taliban checkpoints.

Taliban officials in Kabul denied reports they were attacked Tuesday by Dostam forces, but frontline Taliban commanders confirmed the fighting again.

"We think two Dostam tanks were involved in (Tuesday's) fighting," Mullah Khairullah Haqqani said.

Haqqani reported renewed fighting about halfway up the Salang at a village called Kalataq during the night.

He said the attacking force was mainly fighters loyal to Ahmad

Shah Masood, the former Kabul military commander, who were led by a local commander.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

TURKEY...

But he refused to say which statements he was referring to.

Turkey, responding to U.S. criticism over its ties with Libya, said Wednesday it valued its alliance with the United States but would not accept U.S. interference in its foreign policy.

Washington urged Turkey on Tuesday to join efforts to isolate Libya and rethink any trade deals with Tripoli.

Pro-Islamic Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, carrying out a mission to strengthen Turkey's ties with Islamic nations, visited Libya over the weekend to the dismay of secular-minded Turks and the United States.

Erbakan and Qadhafi agreed to triple trade between their countries during the talks.

"Now it's time for Turkey to stand by the United States in our fight against Qadhafi... to isolate him, to maintain the UN sanctions against Libya," State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns told reporters Tuesday.

"If there was any commercial deal signed in Tripoli, it ought to be rethought by the Turkish government," Burns said.

Atacanli said Burns' statements were "unacceptable".

"Turkey attaches great importance to its alliance with the United States. But Turkish foreign policy has other facets too, and Turkey will run these as it sees fit," Atacanli said.

Erbakan also inflamed the United States by bashing it in statements made in Tripoli.

"We know Libya is against terrorism. We saw the Libyan leader's bombed house (by U.S. jets in 1986). We have seen how it has been the victim of terrorism itself," Erbakan said.

Qadhafi outraged Turks with its remarks in support of Kurdish rebels which both Turkey and the United States brands as terrorists.

Opposition parties have introduced a motion of no-confidence against Erbakan and his three-month-old coalition government, for allowing Turkey to be insulted by the Libyan leader and "humiliated" internationally.

(AP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

RASSOLI...

holding the Friday congregational prayers. Nearly 400 Shiite and Sunni Friday prayer leaders took part in this year's session to coordinate their cultural activities in the year to come.

The head of the Friday prayer leaders' policy-making council, Hojjatoleslam Seyed Hashem Rasooli Mahallati, who was the chairman of the gathering in an exclusive interview with the *Tehran Times* Wednesday touched on the main topics discussed in the course of the meeting.

He noted that this year's talks pivoted on the significant role of the theologians in disseminating the Islamic values and safeguarding the youth of the country against cultural onslaught launched by the enemies of the Islamic Revolution.

"The Leader of the Islamic

Revolution Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei, in an address to the Friday prayer leaders on the first day of the gathering, underlined the crucial tasks of the theologians and offered valuable guidelines in this regard," he added.

The head of the policy-making council went on to say that in the course of the three-day session, several senior government officials, such as President Hashemi Rafsanjani, Judiciary Chief Ayatollah Mohammad Yazdi, and Majlis Speaker Hojjatoleslam Nateq Nouri addressed the participants. They all put emphasis on the vital role of the clergymen in enlightening and guiding people, preserving Islamic values in society and foiling the enemies' plots hatched in order to subvert the Muslim people's religious beliefs.

Asked whether the current issues, such as the forthcoming presidential election, were debated during the meeting, the hojjatoleslam said that the heads of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government expressed their views regarding the next presidential election.

"President Rafsanjani, commenting in this regard, stated that the constitution should not be amended only to pave the way for his running for the presidency for another term because, in his view, there are competent individuals in Iran who can undertake the significant task quite efficiently," Hojjatoleslam Rasooli Mahallati said.

"Hojjatoleslam Nateq Nouri said that he has no particular interest in the presidential office and will stand for president only if the task of heading the executive is entrusted to him," Rasooli Mahallati concluded.

IN THE NAME OF ALLAH



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and Markets

Hindu Nationalists Forge Early Leads in Key State Election

LUCKNOW, India — Hindu nationalists forged early leads Wednesday as officials counted millions of votes cast in a crucial state election which could endanger the country's minority government.

The Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party) led in 32 of 61 constituencies in the

sprawling state of Uttar Pradesh from where early trends were available, election officials said.

"The BJP is clearly in the lead," an official said in Lucknow, the state capital. Four other mutually antagonistic parties were ahead of the BJP elsewhere.

The BJP is seen as the front-runner in Uttar Pradesh, the coun-

try's most populous state that went to the hustings between September 30 and October 7 to elect a new 425-member assembly.

The BJP asserted Wednesday that it was poised to win the state election and said the development could unseat Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda.

"The BJP will form the next government in Uttar Pradesh," the Press Trust of India (PTI) quoted BJP spokeswoman Sushma Swaraj as saying. "It will have a tremendous impact on the longevity of the Deve Gowda government."

She said a BJP victory would topple Deve Gowda's four-month-old United Front Coalition in New Delhi which is sustained in office by the crucial support of former Premier P.V. Narasimha Rao's Congress (I) Party.

Analysts say Deve Gowda would come under pressure to call fresh general elections if the BJP takes power in Uttar Pradesh, a politically-crucial state which has given India eight of its 11 prime ministers.

Most opinion polls predict the well-knit BJP, will be the biggest single party in the Uttar Pradesh Assembly even if it does not manage an outright win.

"If we come out as the single largest group, then also we will stake our claim (to form a government)," another BJP leader, Krishan Lal Sharma, said in New Delhi.

The BJP's main opponents are a six-party alliance involving Deve Gowda's center-left United Front Coalition. (AFP)

Arafat: Palestinians Can Blow Up Again Into Intifada

CAIRO — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat warned Wednesday that anger over the stalled peace process can boil over at any time and spark more deadly clashes unless Israel implements the autonomy accords.

"Those who think Arafat can prevent the Intifada (uprising) of the Palestinian people are making a serious mistake," the Palestinian leader told the Egyptian weekly *Al-Mussawwar*.

"They are ignoring the fact that the people are disappointed, they feel humiliated and unjustly treated," Arafat said.

The Palestinian leader said he was "not optimistic over the negotiations" with Israel brokered by the United States taking place since Sunday at the Erez crossing between the Zionist state and Gaza Strip.

"I'm not sure these negotiations will lead to anything. The Israeli side wants negotiations for the sake of negotiations, whereas the situation could explode at any time," he warned.

Arafat said that at the Washington peace summit last week he put the emphasis on a halt to violence, after clashes in late September in which 68 Palestinians and 15 Israeli soldiers were killed.

But Israel must implement the signed autonomy accords, halt the expansion of Jewish settlements, maintain the status quo in Bait-ul-Moqaddas and halt collective punishment such as the blockade of Palestinian towns, he said.

Arafat warned that the Palestinians would not make any new concessions in the Erez talks, even at the risk of bringing down the peace process.

"I say clearly that we will not accept a change to a single word of the Oslo (autonomy) accords, even if the price is the failure of the peace project," Arafat warned.

"We have nothing more to give and I don't think anyone can ask us to make more concessions," he said. "If we had been able to, we would have done so at the Washington summit."

Arafat said he had rejected a joint declaration in Washington that was drawn up by Israel "but presented by the Americans."

It called for an inquiry against the Palestinian policemen who opened fire at Israeli troops last month, a review of security arrangements drawn up in the autonomy accords, and for an Israeli



GAZA, Gaza Strip (October 9): A Palestinian worker works on the construction site of the control tower of the first Palestinian airport in Rafah city southern Gaza Strip. The Palestinian airport is one of the issues to be negotiated between Israeli and Palestinian Authorities at Erez crossing point. (AFP PHOTO)

committee to examine the tunnel dispute.

The October 1-2 summit gave Israel an "escape route," while the Palestinians gained "the sympathy of the U.S. administration and strong backing from Europe, whose support is growing more and more solid," Arafat said.

He said French President Jacques Chirac had "promised to exert pressure on Washington to advance the American position."

The Palestinian opposition said Wednesday that the peace negotiations with Israel will only result in a new and more violent Intifada, or uprising, against the Zionist state.

"The talks at Erez (on the Israel-Gaza border) will end in an impasse and a new, more violent and effective Intifada," than in

1987-1993, warned the Popular and Democratic Fronts for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP and DFLP).

"Israel still has not closed the tunnel and is pursuing a policy of repression and aggression against the Palestinians," said the two Damascus-based groups.

Israel's opening of an archaeological tunnel near sites holy to Christians, Jews and Muslims in annexed East Bait-ul-Moqaddas last month sparked clashes with the Palestinians in which 84 people were killed.

The DFLP and PFLP called for "an Arab summit, to include all Arab countries without exception, to carry out the resolutions" of a June summit in Cairo that called for a freeze on normalization with Israel. (AFP)

**FIRST VICE
PRESIDENT. DR.
HABIBI'S VISIT
TO THE LAND OF
TOPLESS PALMS.
THE HISTORIC
CITY OF OLD
ARGE-BAM AND
NEW CITY OF
ARGE-BAM IS
VERY WELCOME.**

**Associations for Affairs of Guilds,
Trade Unions and Marketeers of Bam**

Indigenous Congress Opens

MEXICO CITY — An indigenous conference to discuss land ownership and the often squalid living conditions of Mexico's 10 million Indians opened Tuesday without the Mexican guerrilla group that had called it.

About 300 indigenous leaders attended the opening ceremony that had been delayed as delegates waited to see if rebel leaders would defy the government and make the trek to the Mexican capital to participate in the event.

Members of the Zapatista rebel group apparently did not attend the opening, but an appearance at a later stage was not ruled out.

"Their (the rebels') arrival would ... put public safety in danger in ... the capital," Perez said, adding that a Zapatista presence in Mexico City would "endanger something even more valuable, which is the process of (peace) talks." (AFP)

Two Americans, One Briton

Awarded Nobel Prize in Chemistry

STOCKHOLM — Two U.S. researchers and a British researcher were on Wednesday awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry for their discovery of carbon atoms bound in the form of a ball, the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences announced.

The jury honored U.S. profes-

sors Robert Curl Jr. and Richard Smalley as well as British Professor Sir Harold Kroto for the discovery of so-called fullerenes, made in 1985.

Fullerenes are formed when vaporized carbon condenses in an atmosphere of inert gas. (AFP)

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مكناں النحل

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Rats Provide New Paris Terror

PARIS — The rat population of Paris has exploded over the last 18 months, largely due to an anti-terrorist security clampdown which sealed all the city's litter bins last year.

A particular breed of vermin has taken advantage of the crackdown, and the resulting piles of garbage on the pavement, to multiply rapidly in the sewers, basements and parks of the French capital.

While playing down any sense of panic, *Le Figaro* advised Parisians to be on their guard when they next go into the basement.

(AFP)

TEHRAN TIMES

international news

PAGE 12

OCTOBER 10, 1996

Boy in Row Over School Marks Sets Home on Fire

PKARLSRUHE, Germany — A schoolboy furious after his father ordered him to stay home because of bad school marks set the family apartment on fire, causing injury and extensive damage, police said Wednesday.

The fire, which the 14-year-old culprit started in his bed before leaving the scene, spread rapidly.

Eighteen people had to be evacuated from the building, eight of them suffering from smoke inhalation, and material damage was estimated at 150,000 marks.

(AFP)

New President Pledges to Strengthen Bangladeshi Democracy



DHAKA, Bangladesh (October 9): Bangladesh's new President Shahabuddin Ahmed (C) is greeted by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed (L) and outgoing President Abdur Rahman Biswas (R) at the swearing in ceremony at the Bangabhaban presidential palace in Dhaka. A former chief justice, 66-year-old Ahmed took over as Bangladesh's 14th president and titular head of state.

(AFP PHOTO)

DHAKA — Shahabuddin Ahmed was sworn in Wednesday as Bangladesh's president and pledged to strengthen democracy to bring together the country's bitter political rivals.

"My first priority will be to organize a dialogue between the government and the opposition for the interest of democracy and the country," he said at the Bangabhaban presidential palace.

Bangladesh's fragile parliamentary democracy has been

marred by fierce hostility between parties. Election campaigns are often violent and day to day governing is impeded by the lack of cooperation in Parliament.

The president is titular head of state with few real powers, but Ahmed, 66, said he considered himself a "symbol of unity and dignity."

"My duty will be to see that the government and the opposition function smoothly, as well as ad-

vised them," said the former chief justice, who has no known political affiliation.

"I am still optimistic about the future of democracy in Bangladesh," he added.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed led around 800 guests, including ruling Awami League and opposition MPs, diplomats and senior government officials at the investiture.

There was heavy security, with extra police deployed in Dhaka but no incidents were reported.

Khaleda Zia, the former prime minister and head of the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), did not attend.

But Shamsul Islam, a BNP MP and former information minister, told AFP: "I am happy. The transition is very good, as it has set an example for democracy."

(AFP)

Pro-India Government Assumes Power in Kashmir

SRINAGAR, India — A Kashmiri party Wednesday assumed power in India's insurgency-ravaged state, as a protest strike called by separatists partially shut down the state capital.

Farooq Abdullah, 60, was sworn in as the state's top elected official by federally-appointed Governor K.V. Krishna Rao at a brief ceremony. That ended nearly six years of direct federal rule.

However, the All Party Hurriyat Conference, an umbrella organization of 32 separatist groups, vowed to continue their struggle for secession. The group called on Kashmiris to shut their shops and stay home Wednesday to show their opposition to Abdullah's government.

More than 14,500 people have been killed in Kashmir since 1989, when a simmering campaign for an independent Kashmir erupted into a full-scale insurgency.

Abdullah's National Conference is the only local Kashmiri party that contested the state election last month. It won 54 seats in the 87-member state assembly, the rest were shared by two national parties, the rightwing Bharatiya Janata Party and Congress Party, and smaller groups.

Thousands of soldiers and police officers guarded government buildings in capital Srinagar, as nearly 300 politicians and guests

of Abdullah attended the ceremony held in a high security zone.

Abdullah is burdened with the promise of ending the militancy and securing wider autonomy for the state - his main election assurances to the voters. Abdullah had earlier served as the state's chief minister. But he left office in 1989.

(AP)

Ten Die in Military Helicopter Crash

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — An army transport helicopter crashed and burned in an empty polo field in a residential neighborhood of the capital, killing 10 people and injuring five, the army said.

The victims included two army officers, Brig. Gen. Hugo Soto Nunez and Col. Federico Celi Feres, and their wives, the army said in a statement. The officers had been attending a hemispheric defense ministers' conference.

The crash of the French-built Puma Sa 330 E helicopter occurred at 5:35 p.m. (2035 GMT) Tuesday. The cause has not been determined, the statement said.

The polo field is surrounded by a densely populated residential area nine kilometers (5 1/2 miles) from downtown Buenos Aires.

(AP)

IRA Claims Lisburn Bomb, Demands Talks

BELFAST — The Irish Republican Army (IRA) claimed responsibility for bombing Britain's Northern Ireland Army headquarters on Monday and demanded that Britain invite its Sinn Fein political wing to peace talks.

"The resolution of the conflict demands an inclusive negotiated settlement. This is not possible unless and until the British government faces up to its responsibilities," the IRA said in a statement to Irish state broadcaster RTE.

It was the first time the IRA, which fights to end British rule of Northern Ireland, had attacked a target in Northern Ireland since it ended a 17-month cease-fire in February.

Sinn Fein, which shares the IRA's goal of reuniting the two Irelands, is barred from the peace talks because of the IRA's decision to end its truce.

The attack was viewed by security forces and the British government as the most serious development in Northern Ireland since Britain and Ireland embarked on a peace initiative in December 1993.

The IRA accused Britain of "squandering" the opportunity presented by its unprecedented 17-month cease-fire by insisting that the guerrillas prove willing to disarm to earn Sinn Fein a seat with other parties at Belfast peace talks.

"The British government responded by squandering that historic opportunity in a vain attempt to defeat the IRA," the statement said.

Prime Minister John Major, speaking to reporters at the annual conference of his Conservative Party, described the IRA claim of responsibility as "sickening."

(Reuters)

Fighting Reported in Eastern Zaire

BUJUMBURA — Sketchy reports on Wednesday from the Uvira region of eastern Zaire indicated that clashes between Zairian troops and armed bands of Tutsi tribesmen were continuing.

Aid workers in the area reached by telephone from the Burundi capital said about 100 Zairian soldiers were wounded last week during fighting with bands of local ethnic Tutsis known as Banyamulenges and were being treated at the Uvira hospital, near the Burundi border.

The sources were unable to give any indication of fatalities among the Zairian troops. "As far as the Banyamulenges are concerned, we have no information about them whatsoever," said one

aid worker.

Zaire charges neighboring Rwanda and Burundi, where Tutsis dominate the armies and the regimes, of supporting the Banyamulenge, while Zairian soldiers are accused of being supported by Rwandan and Burundian Hutu extremists.

The Lake Kivu region of eastern Zaire, north of Uvira, received more than a million Hutu refugees from Rwanda's civil war of 1994.

(AFP)

U.S. Scientists Win Nobel Prize for Physics

STOCKHOLM, Sweden — Three U.S. scientists, David M. Lee, Douglas D. Osheroff and Robert C. Richardson, won the Nobel Prize in Physics Wednesday for work that has been used to test theories about how galaxies were formed.

Lee, 65, and Richardson, 59, teach at Cornell University in New York, while Osheroff, 51, is a professor at Stanford University in California.

The trio discovered, in the beginning of the 1970s, that the helium isotope helium-3 - at extremely low temperatures - can flow without losing energy to friction and can conduct heat efficiently.

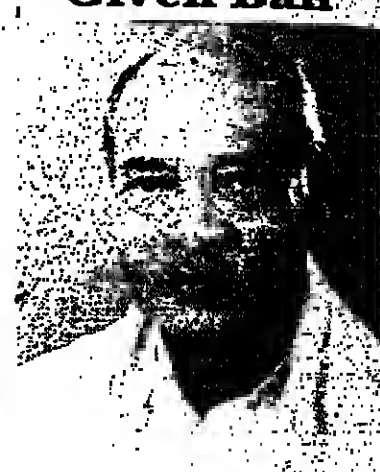
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry was to be announced later Wednesday. Each prize this year is worth \$1.12 million, the largest purse ever.

The Peace Prize is to be announced Friday in Oslo, Norway.

Tuesday's Economics Prize went to William Vickrey of the United States and Briton James Mirrlees for ground breaking studies explaining how information - or lack of it - shapes business decisions.

On Monday, the Medicine

Rao Escapes Arrest, Given Bail



NEW DELHI — Former Indian Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao escaped arrest on forgery charges here Wednesday after a court granted him bail.

Delhi High Court Judge S.K. Mahajan gave Rao bail until October 14, but said he would have to reappear in person for an extension.

Rao, 75, stands accused of masterminding the forgery of documents seven years ago intended to defame then-opposition leader Vishwanath Pratap Singh.

The documents purported to show that Singh, who became prime minister in 1989, and his son Ajaya had flouted foreign-exchange rules by opening a bank account worth \$21 million in the Caribbean island of St. Kitts.

The prosecution opposed the bail application, with the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) arguing that Rao, prime minister for five years until May, might try to influence witnesses.

Rao has also been named a co-accused by the CBI in a 100,000-dollar fraud.

(AP)

30 Drown When Lorry Plunges Into River

LAGOS — Thirty people drowned in Nigeria's western Kwara state when a lorry plunged off a bridge into the Waru River, not far from the state capital Ilorin, the press reports said Wednesday.

Six people survived the accident, which took place in torrential rain and was caused by a brake failure, the reports said. Most of the victims were traders going to pick up supplies at a market.

(AP)

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PAGE 5 spectrum

UK Troops in Exposed

LONDON — The British government has announced that it is considering withdrawing its troops from Somalia. The move comes in the wake of a report that British soldiers had been killed in a recent attack on a military base. The government has not yet decided whether to pull out the troops, but the possibility is being seriously considered.

Zimbabwe's Average AIDS Deaths Nearly

HARARE — The average number of deaths from AIDS in Zimbabwe has risen to 100 a day, according to a report from the World Health Organization. The report highlights the severe impact of the disease on the country's population and calls for urgent action to control its spread.

HEALTH CAPSULES

By Michael A. Paris, M.D.

Now more than ever, it's important to take care of your health. Here are some tips to help you stay healthy and avoid common ailments.

FERD'NAND (RUB)

NANCY (RUB) CITY

UK Troops in Persian Gulf Were Exposed to Pesticide

LONDON — The government promised on Sunday to investigate claims that British soldiers in the 1991 Persian Gulf war were not given protective clothing when spraying pesticides now suspected of causing so-called Persian Gulf war syndrome.

The *Independent* a Sunday newspaper, quoting restricted documents, said senior army officers were repeatedly warned of the health risk but failed to provide protective equipment.

Defense Secretary Michael Portillo said the ministry, which admitted on Friday for the first time a possible link between organo-

phosphate pesticides (OPS) and illnesses popularly known as Persian Gulf war syndrome, would carry out further investigations.

"Obviously we're talking about things that happened on the ground in a war situation," Portillo told sky television.

"But clearly we must go back and find out whether people used these sprays, whether they were protected at the time, whether they should have been protected at the time — these are all questions to be asked," he said.

There is no dispute that unusual numbers of Persian Gulf war veterans have since been ill. But doc-

tors disagree whether there is a consistent pattern to the ailments which should be classified as a "syndrome" and related to specific physical causes.

About 51,000 Britons were involved in the war against Iraq following Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait. The government has refused to recognize a specific Persian Gulf war syndrome and has attributed any ailments to the stress of war.

But it has been investigating some 750 veterans suffering from chronic fatigue, asthma, depression and skin complaints.

Some veterans are now confined to wheelchairs and claim their children have suffered birth defects.

Richard Barr, a lawyer representing 400 Persian Gulf war veterans, said one substance in the "cocktail" of immunizations soldiers were given to protect them against chemical and biological warfare magnified the effect of ops by a factor of 10.

"We have spoken to a large number of troops, particularly in connection with ops, and all of them do confirm that, to put it very mildly, the safety arrangements were fairly slapdash," Barr told BBC radio.

The pesticides, some bought locally, were used to control insect-borne disease in the desert during the campaign.

In April, U.S. scientists said they had found that the combination of chemicals troops were exposed to in the Persian Gulf had effects on animals similar to those experienced by veterans. (Reuters)

British Divers Say Monster in Austrian Lake Tried to Bite Them

VIENNA — British divers doing research in a small Austrian lake say they were attacked by a creature up 15 meters (50 feet) long and weighing up to a ton.

The team, from a British firm called the Royal Aquanautic Society, said the beast bit threw an underwater video cable Monday and went after them, but they escaped unharmed.

The close call happened in Lake Toplitz, 70 kilometers (40 miles) east of the northern city of Salzburg.

An official of the Austrian government's Water and Forestry De-

partment told the news agency APA the team had a permit to explore the lake for scientific purposes. The official made no other comment.

An official from a Scuba diving school said it was unlikely the Britons could have seen anything looser than two or three-meter fish.

It is not the first time Lake Toplitz has drawn explorers. Several failed expeditions have been mounted to try to find chests of Nazi gold rumored to be lying at the bottom of the remote lake. (AFP)

107 Dead in Ukraine of Mushroom Poisoning So Far This Year

KIEV — More than 100 people have died of mushroom poisoning in Ukraine since the start of the year, the Ukrainian Health Ministry said Tuesday.

The ministry said that 107 people including 45 children had died this year, compared with 70 deaths recorded for the whole of last year, adding that people were failing to heed government warnings about dangerous mushrooms.

"People are not listening to cautionary messages in the Ukrainian press and on the radio," said Vladimir Voloshin, head of the Health Ministry's press service.

The high number of deaths has

also been attributed to an unusual abundance of mushrooms in Ukrainian forests this year.

Most of the deaths, blamed on pickers' failure to distinguish between poisonous and edible mushrooms, occurred in Crimea in the south and Lugansk and Dnepropetrovsk in the east.

In Crimea, a family of four who were visiting relatives died after eating poisonous mushrooms, the "Vedomosti daily" newspaper reported. It added that in Nikolayevsk, in the south, a mother died of mushroom poisoning during the burial of her only daughter. (AFP)

Woman Who Lost Eight Babies Wants More Children

LONDON — The woman who this week lost eight babies she had insisted on trying to carry to term, does not regret her decision and is planning more children, a tabloid reported Sunday.

Reporters from *News of the World*, which bought Mandy Allwood's story for an undisclosed sum, said she wept continuously as she described the pain of losing eight babies.

But she added, "I gave them (the babies) my all and now I can rest with my conscience even though I know I will have to deal with the 'told you so' brigade," the *News of the World* said.

"Just looking at them tells me I made the right decision. They are so beautiful," said Miss Allwood, who held each of the dead babies.

The interview was held in Allwood's hospital room soon after she lost the last of her fetuses on Wednesday, and all eight corpses wrapped in pink and blue shawls still lay in a cot next to Allwood.

Miss Allwood, 32, who became pregnant after taking fertility drugs, disregarded doctors' advice to abort some of the fetuses to give the others a better chance.

She gave birth prematurely to the first three babies, all boys, on Monday, in the 19th week of pregnancy. She lost the remaining five, including two girls, last Wednesday.

The newspaper said Miss Allwood and the babies' father, 37-year-old Paul Hudson will bury the eight babies in the same coffin this week.

"I have promised Mandy that we may still have eight babies one day — but not all at once this time," the newspaper quoted Hudson as saying.

He denied the couple pressed ahead with the pregnancy because of the offer of large sums from the *News of the World*.

"If someone could bring back our babies, we would hand back every single penny we have ever received," he was quoted as saying.

"I feel so empty and scared. I keep holding my stomach as the swelling goes down and it is a reminder that I am left with nothing," the newspaper quoted Miss Allwood as saying.

The *News of the World* said the couple named the girls Kitani and Layne and called the boys Adam, Kyros, Donald, Cassius, Nelson and Martyn. The last two, who were twins, were named after South African President Nelson Mandela and assassinated U.S. civil rights leader Martin Luther King. (AP)

Skip Away Upsets Cigar

NEW YORK — Skip Away held off the mighty Cigar and won the \$1 million Jockey Club Gold Cup on Saturday at Belmont Park.

The upset of the 1-5 favorite clinched the U.S. 3-year-old championship for Skip Away, who took the lead at the top of the stretch and held off the hard-charging Cigar for a head victory at the end of the 2 kilometers (1.25 miles).

It was Cigar's second loss in three races since his 16-race winning streak was snapped in the Pacific Classic on Aug. 10 at Del Mar.

Skip Away, winning his second straight grade 1 stakes, won in 2 minutes, 0.71 seconds and paid \$13.60, \$13.20 and \$13.20 to win, place and show on a \$12.50 wager. (AP)

Thought

It is reported from Imam al-Sadiq, peace be with him, who said: Jesus the son of Mary, peace be with them, said to some of his companions: That which is not loved by you for someone to do to you, do not do that to others, and if someone strikes you on the right cheek turn to him your left cheek also. (Bahar, Vol. 1, P. 267)

PRAYER

Noon.....11:51
Evening.....17:53
Dawn (tomorrow).....4:38
Sunrise (tomorrow).....6:09

TOMORROW IN HISTORY

1797 - The British defeated the Dutch in the naval battle of Camperdown off the North Holland coast.

1809 - Meriwether Lewis, U.S. explorer who, with William Clark, found the overland route to the Pacific, died aged 35.

1844 - Henry John Heinz, U.S. food-products manufacturer who formed H.J. Heinz Co. born.

1871 - The great fire of Chicago was finally extinguished after three days.

1899 - The South African Boer war began between the British Empire and Boers of the Transvaal and Orange Free state.

1939 - Albert Einstein and other U.S. scientists informed President Roosevelt of the possibilities of developing an atomic bomb.

1961 - Leonard "chico" Marx, the piano-playing member of the Marx brothers, died at 70.

1962 - Pope John XXIII opened the second Vatican Council in St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, the first meeting of the council since 1869-70.

1963 - Jean Cocteau, French poet, novelist, actor, film director and painter, died aged 74.

1976 - Mao Zedong's widow Jiang Qing and three others, the "gang of four", were arrested and charged with plotting a coup.

1977 - North Yemeni President Colonel Ibrahim al-Hamdi was killed by unknown assassins.

1980 - Two Soviet cosmonauts concluded longest space mission up to that time, 185 days, aboard Salyut 6.

1982 - The "Mary Rose", once Henry VIII's flagship, was raised from the Solent, off southern England.

1988 - Pope John Paul's speech to the European Parliament in Strasbourg was disrupted when headline Northern Ireland Protestant the reverend Ian Paisley began shouting "anti-Christ" and waved a red banner reading John Paul II anti-Christ.

1990 - A bomb killed three people and injured 49 in a crowded discotheque in Santiago de Compostela, Spain. More blasts wrecked buildings in other parts of the Galician region.

1990 - A crowd of 150,000 packed the May 1 Stadium in the North Korean capital Pyongyang to see North Korea beat South Korea 2-1 in an historic soccer friendly — the first sports competition between the divided nation on home soil.

1995 - French Prime Minister Alain Juppe escaped prosecution over his personal housing lease but a public prosecutor said he had broken the law on conflict of interest and ordered him to move house.

Zimbabwe's Average Weekly AIDS Deaths Nearly Double

HARARE - The weekly average number of people dying from AIDS in Zimbabwe has jumped in recent months from 300 to about 500, the country's National AIDS Coordination Program (NACP) estimates, press reports said Tuesday.

NACP chief Everisto Marowa said his organization was concerned at the lack of a national HIV/AIDS prevention and control body in a country where about 10 percent of the population is infected with the HIV (human immunodeficiency virus) which causes the acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

"We are concerned that in 1996 we do not have an AIDS body to provide advocacy and direction in

prevention and control and we also do not have a national multi-sectoral committee to motivate and mobilize the different sectors," Marowa said.

There are, however, 52 support groups and 60 non-governmental organizations (NGOs) dealing with the AIDS pandemic in this Southern African state of 10.4 million people.

In addition, some 100 private firms run AIDS awareness and prevention programs for their employees.

"What is still lacking is the clear and significant evidence of behavior change to impact on the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases," Marowa said. (AFP)

HEALTH CAPSULES®

by Michael A. Pott, M.D.

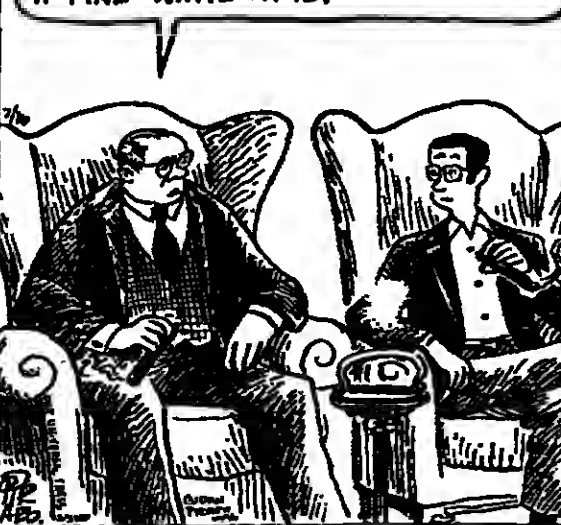
HOW MUCH FISH DO YOU NEED TO EAT FOR PROTECTION AGAINST HEART DISEASE?



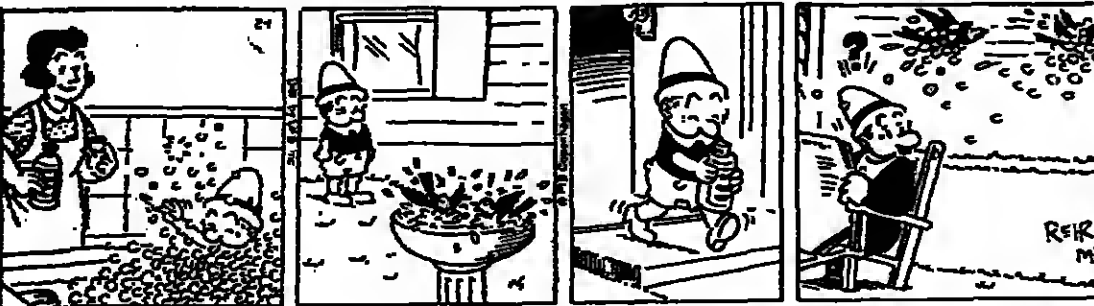
Health Capsules is not intended to be a diagnostic device.

Bizarro by Dan Piraro

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FERD'NAND (R) by Henrik Rehr



NANCY (R) by Guy & Brad Gilchrist



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مکان التحمل

Wednesday, October 2

Warlord's Forces Control Strategic Tunnel



Troops loyal to northern Afghan warlord Abdul Rashid Dostum controlled the strategic tunnel providing access to northern Afghanistan Wednesday and vowed to defend it if attacked by the Taliban militia, an AFP reporter at the scene said.

Palestinians Ready for Violence If Washington Summit Fails



Palestinians said they were ready to take up their stones again against Israeli soldiers if President Yasser Arafat returned from Wednesday's Middle East Summit in Washington empty-handed.

EU Ups Stakes in Dispute With U.S. Over Trade Sanctions

The European union Tuesday stepped up its fight with the United States over legislation that pushes foreign companies dealing with Cuba, Libya and Iran.

Peruvian Airliner Crashes Into Ocean

A Peruvian jet carrying 70 people crashed into the foggy Pacific Ocean north of Lima after the pilot reported a mechanical failure Wednesday.

ECO Adopts Strategy to Year 2005

In an exclusive interview with the *Tehran Times* the Director General of ECO Affairs of the Iranian Foreign Ministry, Seyyed Mojtaba Arastoo, said that the Economic Cooperation Organization (ECO), an intergovernmental regional organization devoted to the socioeconomic development of its ten member states, endorsed 11 documents as the organization's blue-print, outlining its legal entity, restructuring of ECO, defining its long term strate-

gies, administrative procedures, methodologies, personnel selection criteria, financing system and conduct of business with other economic agencies.

Thursday, October 3

Iran, Pakistan Discuss Afghan Crisis

Pakistan's Minister of State for Political Coordination Affairs, Iqbal Haider Zaidi, in a meeting here Thursday with Iranian Ambassador Mohammad Mahdi Ahkoundzadeh expressed his country's concern over the continuation of conflict in Afghanistan.

Dole Slams Clinton's Foreign Policy

Republican White House candidate Bob Dole attacked president Bill Clinton's foreign policy Thursday, warning that his politically motivated actions were turning disastrous.

Hardliners Mark Third Anniversary of Moscow Bloodshed



Hundreds of hardliners marched across downtown Moscow under red Soviet banner Thursday to mark the third anniversary of bloody clashes between government forces and armed opposition in the Russian capital.

Truth Commission to Subpoena Former Government Minister

A apartheid-era government minister will be called to give information to the truth and reconciliation commission about torturing and killing anti-apartheid activists.

Friday, October 4

Bomb Explodes in Honduran Congress

A bomb exploded early Friday in the Honduran Congress building in downtown Tegucigalpa, officials said.

EU Ambassadors Cancel Bridge Opening Due to Croatian Flag

EU ambassadors cancelled an official opening ceremony for an EU-sponsored bridge in south-

The World This Week

ern Bosnia on Friday after they arrived to find a Croatian flag flying over it.

Chirac, Prodi Condemn U.S. Trade Sanctions



Two European leaders Friday condemned U.S. legislation that punishes foreign companies dealing with Cuba, Iran and Libya. They called for strong European action in response.

Saturday, October 5

Central Asian States Warn Taliban Not to Cross Border

Russia and four Central Asian Republics warned Taliban militia sweeping Afghanistan to steer clear of what used to be Soviet territory or face the consequences.

Mubarak: Strength Won't Bring Security

President Hosni Mubarak on Saturday used the anniversary of Egypt's last war with Israel to implicitly criticize current Israeli policies, saying only peace can bring security to the Middle East, not brute strength.

Iraq Ready to Grant Self-Rule to Kurdish North

Iraq Ready to grant self-rule to Kurdish areas in the north of the country, Foreign Minister, Mohammad Saeed Al-Sahhaf was quoted as saying on Saturday.

EU Leaders Call For Treaty Talks to Move Apace



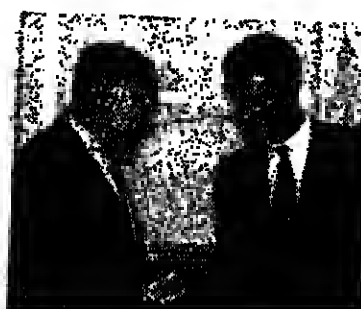
European Union leaders, seeking to reinvigorate talks on the bloc's future, pledged again on Saturday to complete a new treaty by the middle of next year and rejected any idea of scaling back its scope.

Supreme Court Rejects Attempt to Stay Presidential Swearing-In

The Supreme Court on Saturday quashed a stay application to stop next week's swearing-in of Bangladesh's new President, Shahabuddin Ahmad, court sources said.

Sunday, October 6

EU Seeks Greater Mideast Role



Irish Foreign Minister Dick Spring said here on Monday that European Union (EU) wants to help push forward the Middle East peace process 'politically and economically.'

Sri Lanka Goes on Red Alert for Suicide Bombers



Sri Lanka was placed on maximum alert amid reports that up to 25 women suicide bombers had infiltrated the capital as troops consolidated in a former Tamil rebel bastion, officials said Sunday.

Blast Hits French Premier Juppe's Mayoral Office

A strong blast damaged the mayoral offices of the Prime Minister Alain Juppe in Bordeaux in southwestern France overnight, causing damage but no casualties, officials said on Sunday.

Israeli Youths Protest Against Netanyahu's West Bank and Gaza Strip Policy

Several hundreds of Israeli youths protested against Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's policy in the West Bank and

Speaker Inaugurates Zahedan's Hospital



Majlis Speaker Ali Nateq Nouri inaugurated a 256-bed hospital in Zahedan, Sistan-Baluchistan, Wednesday.

Friday, October 4

Iran Does not Favor Any Group in Afghanistan

Iran's Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati said in an interview with the local reporters here on Friday that the Islamic Republic of Iran had always advocated peace and stability in Afghanistan without preference to any specific rival group in that country.

Saturday, October 5

Nateq-Nouri Inaugurates Fisheries Exhibition

Majlis Speaker Ali Akbar Velayati inaugurated a fisheries exhibition at the Ramin coastal port near Chahbahar, Sistan Baluchistan Province Saturday.

Sunday, October 6

Turkish Spy Arrested in Orumiyeh

A agent of Turkish intelligence Agency has been arrested in Orumiyeh, western Iran.

Monday, October 7

Islamic Revolution Able to Run the Country, Fulfil Needs of a Great Nation

The Leader of the Islamic Revolution Grand Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, in a meeting here on Monday with the country's Friday prayer leaders, denounced the fratricide and shelling of the cities and defenseless people in Afghanistan as a counter Islamic move and considered the U.S. support for an Afghan group unfamiliar with the Islamic laws an effort to oppose the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Tuesday, October 8

Iranian President Rules Out Third Term

Iranian President Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said Tuesday that he opposed amending the constitution to allow him to run for a third term in office.

Local News

Wednesday, October 2

تاریخ: ۱۳۷۵/۱۰/۱۰

How Strong Is Your Back?

Faulty postures while sitting, standing, bending, working, sleeping or driving can leave you with a gnawing low back pain. The down-slide begins by the time you reach your 30s and strikes housewives who tend to wash clothes in a faulty posture, people who drive long distances to work, artists and scientists who bend over worktables and others who have sedentary jobs.

Obesity aggravates a bad back. Five extra kilos of flab around your middle can exert a 25-kilo extra force on your back, causing strain to the spinal joints and ligaments.

Other prime candidates for backpain are people who have weak abdominal muscles, lift heavy weights frequently and don't eat a balanced meal.

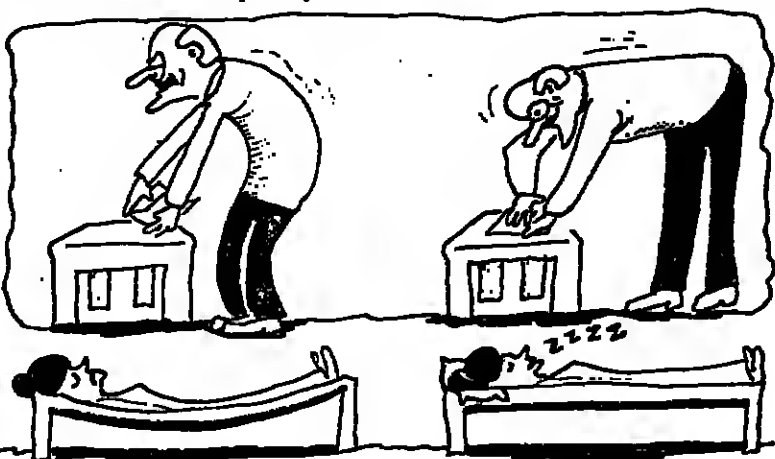
One of the best exercises to attain a healthier back is to begin with a low-impact exercise like a 30-minute walk thrice a week. Walk with your stomach tucked in and your chin up. Exercises to strengthen stomach muscles must be included in the daily routine. Strong muscles in the middle pro-

vide a healthy support for the back. Exercising regularly strengthens abdominal and back muscles, besides improving circulation within the spine, keeping it supple.

The back bone is made up of a group of small bones which are linked to each other by many sub-

variably develops.

But the good news is that low back ache can be prevented if only we are slightly conscious of our posture and can take time out to perform a few simple exercises to strengthen the muscles of the back.



stances. In between the bones, there is an orifice from where nerves originate. When we sit, sleep or work in an incorrect posture which strains the back, the nerves and the adjoining areas are affected. If the posture is repeated all the time, a low back ache in-

Besides exercises, a few simple precautions in our daily life will protect our backs to a large extent. Take care to bend your knees instead of your back while lifting heavy weights off the floor. Keep the

The Bad Back on Vacation

Vacation traveling is fun. But for people with a bad back, journeys can be well, a real pain. And if your back really packs up, you are laid flat while everyone else has the time of their lives. To avoid this, U.S. publication *Prevention* asked experts for tips on back-friendly traveling. Here are some of the suggestions:

* On long journeys, walk or stand five or 10 minutes for every one hour of sitting. Cramped seating puts pressure on lower vertebral disks while "standing tall" relieves that pressure.

* It is worthwhile to carry a slim, small cushion that fits in the inward curve of the lower back. If the curve gets pushed outward there's an unnatural squeeze of the vertebral disks. No cushion? Use a rolled up towel, but support that curve!

* Empty those back trouser-pockets. Sitting on a pile of wallet,



keys, road-map and what not gives a subtle twist to the spine and presses on some nerves.

* Hiking? Bags that weigh down one shoulder are not for you. Those with bad backs are better off with a back-pack that spreads the load evenly over shoulders, chest and abdominal muscles but keeps the spine straight.

* Two small bags (no more than 8-10 kilos each) are better than one whopper which puts an imbalanced load on the spine.

* Must carry suitcase? Stand between two bags, lift them simultaneously with both hands. Bend only at the knees. Straighten up smoothly. Keep weight close to the body.

Answers to Last Week's Bangers

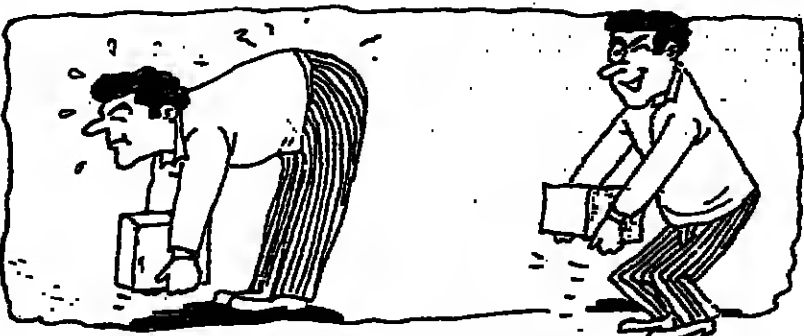
The photograph was taken from negative C.

back straight.

Don't slouch over your washing or while you are cooking in the kitchen. Keep your back straight, especially while taking care of chores like washing the dishes and ironing the clothes.

You must keep your back straight even when you relax. Support the small of your back with a tiny cushion or a soft pillow behind your back. Use an ergonomically designed chair to help you maintain a good posture. You must also support your back with a cushion when you drive.

Sleep on the right bed. Use a hard bed with a firm mattress which does not sag. Use a pillow



to support your head. Ideally, change your bed and mattress once every few years.

Avoid high-heeled shoes as they could cause damage to the spine. This translates to back-pain.

Once you have corrected your posture while sitting, driving and sleeping, you will begin to feel the difference. There is also a good exercise to strengthen the muscles of the back and should be done

mornings and evenings. Lie face down on the floor with your hands behind your back.

Raise your head and shoulders off the ground so that the back is curved. Hold this position and count till three. Lower head and shoulders gradually to the starting position and relax. Repeat the exercise at least 10 times.

(Courtesy the Times of India)

EAT LIKE A YOGI

Yogic philosophy lays a lot of stress on the right kind of diet — one that is wholly conducive to developing and maintaining a healthy body, a balanced mind and ensures spiritual progress.

The emphasis is on foods that keep the mind pure and calm. Milk, barley, wheat, cereals, butter, cheese, tomatoes, honey, dates, fruits, vegetables and almonds figure high on the list.

The first and foremost principle of a yogic diet is that the food should be simple, natural, non-stimulating, tissue-building, energy-producing, light, nutritious and easily digestible.

The well-known yogic scripture *Hath Yog Pradipka* suggests that certain foods which are bitter, sour, excessively salty, fermented, oily and those which cause a burn-

ing sensation should be avoided. Instead gorge on cereals, milk and honey, dried ginger, *parwal* and *moong* for added strength and energy in the body.

But it is not what you eat that is important. How and when you eat is equally important, too. For one, you should have food at the right time and in the right quantity.

For another, concentrate on one food at a time. Avoid having too many different foods together. The liver and the pancreas function better this way.

Yogis advise that you must first have a spoon of water before eating, so that obstructions in the food pipe, if any, will get washed away.

Another golden rule to follow is that you fill only half the stomach with pleasant, wholesome



food of your choice. Another quarter should be filled with water, and the rest left empty for expansion of gases.

At the end of the meal try to rest. Follow up a meal with *vasana*.

But before you fill up your plate, consider your age, occupation, weather, your personal preferences and the doctor's advice. Keep off some foods if the doctor has recommended otherwise.

Entertaining in Style



Flapjacks

You will need...

- 4 oz. margarine
- 4 level tablespoons golden syrup
- 3 oz. granulated sugar
- 8 oz. rolled oats
- 1 level teaspoon salt

Preparation time
15 minutes

Cooking time
30 minute

Oven setting
375°F, gas mark 3

Grease a square, shallow tin, about 7-inches. Put margarine and syrup in a pan and leave over a low heat until margarine has melted. Remove from heat and add sugar, oats and salt. Turn mixture into prepared tin and cook in a very moderate oven for 30 to 40 minutes until golden brown. Leave to cool in tin for 5 minutes then cut into 12 bars (see Quick Tip below). Place on a wire tray to finish cooling.

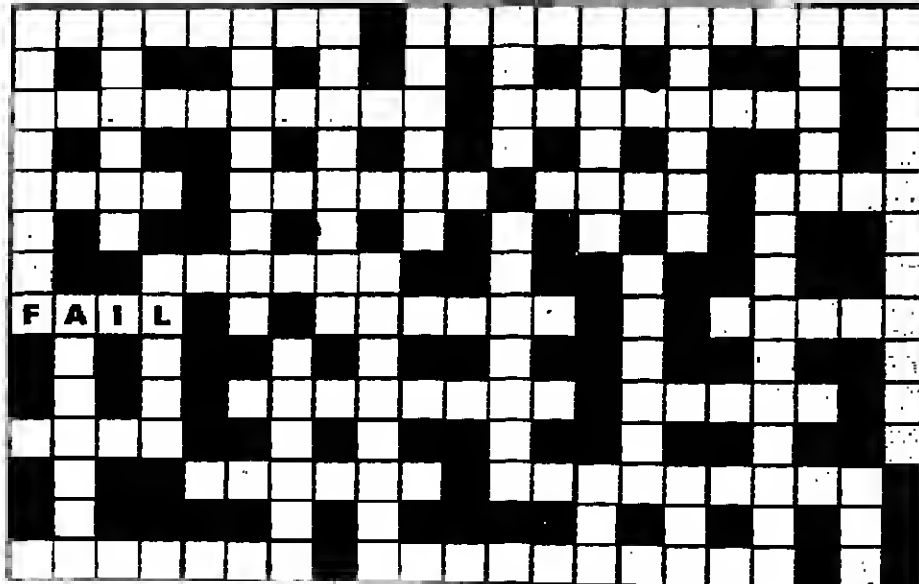
QUICK TIP

Cut up the flapjacks in the tin whilst they are still warm. If they are allowed to get completely cold, they will be too crisp and will just break into small pieces.



Criss-Cross

Can you fit all the listed words into their correct places in the grid? We've entered one word to give you a start.



- 4 Letters: EDGE, ESPY, FAIR, LASH, LIMP, MOAT, NOOK, ONUS, PREV, QUAY, ROOK, WEAN, WEAR.
- 5 Letters: ENSUE, GRACE, NAVAL, OVINE, QUART, SCANT, SLAVE, THYME.
- 6 Letters: ACIDIC, AILING, BREATH, DANGER, ENLIST, FARROR, HELMET, INTEND, JARGON, LATENT, LEeway, MARINE, NEURON, SIGNOR, SLEUTH, TAILOR.
- 7 Letters: ANODYNE, BRACING, CHARTER, PROVOST, RESCIND.
- 8 Letters: APPEASED, DANDRUFF, DEFECTED, DONATION, INFERIOR, RENEGADE, SENILITY, THEOLOGY, TRESPASS.
- 9 Letters: TRANSLATE, VISUALISE.
- 10 Letters: ACCEPTANCE, ESCARPMENT, NORTHERNER, WITCHCRAFT.
- 11 Letters: CONTRAPTION, REVALUATION.
- 12 Letters: MELODRAMATIC.

(Solution Next Thursday)

Feature

Facets of Countries

Spotlight: Denmark

A Vision of the Future

As an experiment VillaVision has taken a slightly different course from other experimental houses in Denmark, and gone farther than others towards the ideal of a home which is practically independent of outside services.

In use as a family home, rather than the demonstration exercise which is its role for the first 12 months after completion, the building is expected to consume about 5 to 10 percent of the energy needed for a similarly-sized (200 sq mtr) standard home built to national standards. And while the project calls for a piped water supply, waste water and sewage are treated in the building's own purification system.

At the same time, this home for the future has prepared itself for the age of information technology, with video-telephones, multi-media computers and all the facilities required for home working. In addition to its direct ecological intentions, VillaVision makes a contribution to reducing traffic congestion by allowing its residents to work from home, instead of going to the office every day.

WATER LILY

In spite of all these features, it is the appearance of the building that has caused most comment. VillaVision is a one-level circular building with an almost flat roof topped by a conical glass pyramid of highly insulating windows



The glass pyramid, with its triangular sunshades, exploits solar power in various ways.

which in hot weather are shielded from sunlight by triangular blinds that look like the sails of a yacht. When the blinds are unfurled but not pressing on the glass, the building resembles a water lily flower in bloom.

A plan of the building shows two concentric walls, with the central space forming a common living area topped by the glass dome, and individual rooms distributed along the space between the two walls. Instead of traditional foundations down to frost-free depth, VillaVision floats on a 400 mm layer of hard mineral wool insulation covered by a foundation plate which carries supports for the walls.

Several advantages are claimed for this innovative approach. It prevents thermal bridges, since there is no direct connection to



A view of VillaVision, Denmark's experimental house of the future.

the ground. Piling is unnecessary because of the load distribution across the foundation plate, and a drain around the building is not required, as the building is above ground level.

DESIGN and FINISH

VillaVision was built by Denmark's Technological Institute (DTI), and sponsored by official government agencies and organizations representing building trades. More than 100 companies have contributed materials, services and moral support. As a result, VillaVision is a showcase of building materials, fittings and furnishings as well as an experimental project.

collected by a beat pump and released through the building's foundation plate.

PV POWER

Solar energy is exploited with the use of Denmark's first grid-connected photo voltaic system. The 20 sq mtr panel of cells generates about 2,000 kwh/year under normal weather conditions, and this power is fed direct to the grid by the building and its users.

VillaVision uses electricity for cooking, but still manages a high standard of overall electricity economy by lighting control combined with low-energy bulbs, low consumption refrigerators and freezers, and controllable electric pumps.

VillaVision marks a considerable advance towards a fully intelligent building. Much of the power management is automatic. Lights switch off automatically when a room is empty and ventilation starts when someone enters a room.

Ventilation also starts automatically when food is being cooked or someone takes a bath, and shuts down again once the air has been renewed.

The sunshades on the building's glass pyramid, and vents for fresh air also open automatically. The building's management system also serves as a burglar alarm, capable of calling an emergency phone number if a malfunction develops.

WATER MANAGEMENT

Water consumption has been cut by using high-pressure toilets which, like those in aircraft, use about 10 percent of the volume used to flush a standard toilet. In the kitchen, an electronic cut-off delivers measured amounts of water. In the bathroom the water only flows when someone puts a hand under the tap.

The building has its own biological water purification system. After an initial purification the water is drained into a carp pool through a biological filter and a root-zone. An ultra-violet filter is used to remove possibly harmful bacteria on the way. (Courtesy of Denmark Review, 1/1995.)

Travelogue

The Rising Sun of the Persian Gulf

Tehran Times Service

Qeshm Island is located in the heart of one of Iran's oil and gas-rich regions. With a surface area of some 1,335 square kilometers, plus some 150 square kilometers of sea-forests, it is by far the largest island in the Persian Gulf.

The island's shores run parallel to the coast of the Iranian province of Hormuzgan opposite the ports of Bandar Abbas, Khamir and Lengeh, while its southern shores look over the Persian Gulf opposite the coasts of Oman and the United Arab Emirates.

The Qeshm sea-forest is a protected natural setting. The locals sailing in their canoes through the narrow channels scattered throughout the sea-forest periodically harvest the young branches of the trees and use them as feedstock for the large herds of camels and goats grazing on the island. The forest is also home for huge flocks of birds, including migrant birds, such as white and grey pelicans. The tributaries of Qeshm's sea-forest



A view of Qeshm Island.

good, with temperatures averaging 34 deg. centigrade in July and 19 deg. centigrade in January, and the humidity averaging 93 percent and 71 percent respectively. Thus, the island's climate

creeks and sea-forest contribute towards making the island a natural wonder. Moreover, as a free trade zone, Qeshm has all the attributes of a potential tourist resort and shopping center. Plans are being made for the construction in Qeshm of a modern airport and hotel. As of now it is easily accessible by motorized boats that regularly ply from Kish Island or Bandar Abbas.

HISTORY

Qeshm has always been a center of trade between Western Asia, the Indian sub-continent, the Arabian Peninsula, and the east coast of Africa. The island has played the role of a distribution center and the converging point of diverse cultures. These characteristics have constantly been acknowledged throughout history. References to Qeshm Island can be traced back to the Achaemenid era some 500 years B.C. More recently, travelers such as Marco Polo in the 13th century have also mentioned Qeshm in their writings. The Portuguese sailor Vasco da Gama made mention of it concomitant to the discovery of the route to Asia via the Cape of Good Hope.



Qeshm: a natural aquarium

provide a suitable natural setting for the culture of a variety of fish, shrimp and lobster.

For eight months of the year, Qeshm's climatic conditions are

is one of the most pleasant in the world from October through March. Innumerable fresh water streams, palm groves, meadows and the unique lagoon with its

Fascinating Facts

Domesticated Animals Have Smaller Brains

The brains of domesticated animals are up to a third smaller than those of their wild counterparts, a report presented to the annual conference of the German Society for Mammals said last week.

"But that does not mean they are more stupid, only that they have adapted to a different environment," Professor Dieter Kruska of the Kiel Institute for Domesticated Animals said.

The reduction in brain size varied between different types of animals, Kruska said, reporting the

Kiel Institute's findings to the prestigious society.

Less-developed species such as laboratory mice or domesticated

rabbits show a brain mass reduction of up to 14 percent, but in pigs, sheep, cats or dogs it lies between 18 and 34 percent, he said.

Brain Teaser

Baker Street Puzzle



(Answers will appear next week.)

تاریخچه ایران

TODAY IN HISTORY

1971 - Death toll is put at more than 200 in hurricane that swept parts of Haiti, Cuba, Mexico and area of U.S. state of Florida.

1976 - Scores of left-wing students, professors and politicians are in hiding or flee country after military coup in Thailand.

1977 - Two Soviet cosmonauts, encountering trouble in docking with their space station, are ordered to return to Earth.

1980 - Thousands of casualties are reported following earthquake in Al Ansan, Algeria.

1987 - Suspected communist assassins kill journalist and military officer in separate attacks in Philippines.

1988 - Suspected Tamil militants attack village in northern Sri Lanka, killing at least 47 people as they sleep.

1989 - Presidents of Peru, Colombia and Bolivia meet in Ica, Peru, to develop common drug-fighting strategy, as ten bombs explode in Colombian cities, injuring 32.

1993 - Socialist Andreas Papandreu returns to power in Greek elections.

1994 - Haitian leader Lt. Gen. Raoul Cedras resigns, paving the way for the return of exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide.

Photo: Kaveh Ahmadi

CANDID CAMERA



TOMORROW IN HISTORY

1933 - Latin American countries sign Rio de Janeiro nonaggression pact.

1963 - United Nations condemns repression in South Africa by 106-1 vote.

1967 - Bolivian officials say body of slain guerrilla Che Guevara has been buried in secret grave.

1972 - United States places restrictions on its pilots carrying out attacks in Hanoi area after three foreign missions in North Vietnam are damaged.

1976 - Reports from China say Mao Zedong's (Mao Tse-Tung's) widow and three others have been arrested.

1987 - Indian peacekeeping troops, using artillery and mortars, kill more than 120 Tamil rebels in weekend offensive on Jaffna Peninsula in Sri Lanka.

1988 - Burmese troops kill 10 people in capital of Rangoon and in a central Burmese town.

1989 - International consortium led by Texaco Inc. discovers high-quality crude oil in a previously unexplored area off the African coast.

1993 - U.S. ship carrying UN mission is blocked from docking in Haiti by army-backed toughs.

Clay

James Joyce (1882-1941)

The matron had given her leave to go out as soon as the women's tea was over and Maria looked forward to her evening out. The kitchen was: spick-and-span the cook said you could see yourself in the big copper boilers. The fire was nice and bright and on one of the side-tables were four very big bambracks. These bambracks seemed uncut; but if you went closer you would see that they had been cut into long thick even slices and were ready to be handed round at tea. Maria had cut them herself.

Maria was a very, very small person indeed but she had a very long nose and a very long chin. She talked a little through her nose, always soothingly: "Yes, my dear," and "No, my dear." She was always sent for when the women quarreled over their tubs and always succeeded in making peace. One day the matron had said to her:

"Maria, you are a veritable peacemaker!"

And the sub-matron and two of the Board ladies had heard the compliment. And Ginger Mooney was always saying what she wouldn't do to the dummy who had charge of the irons if it wasn't for Maria. Everyone was so fond of Maria.

The women would have their tea at six o'clock and she would be able to get away before seven. From Ballsbridge to the Pillar, twenty minutes; from the Pillar to Drumcondra, twenty minutes; and twenty minutes to buy the things. She would be there before eight. She took out her purse with the silver clasps and read again the words *A Present from Belfast*. She was very fond of that purse because Joe had brought it to her five years before when he and Alphy had gone to Belfast on a Whit-Monday trip. In the purse were two half-crowns and some coppers. She would have five shillings clear after paying tram fare. What a nice evening they would have, all the children singing! Only she hoped that Joe wouldn't come in doped up. He was so different when he took any drink.

Often he had wanted her to go and live with them; but she would have felt herself in the way (though Joe's wife was ever so nice with her) and she had become accustomed to the life of the laundry. Joe was a good fellow. She had nursed him and Alphy too; and Joe used often say:

"Mamma is mamma but Maria is my proper mother."

After the breakup at home the boys had got her that position in the *Dublin by Lamplight* laundry, and she liked it. She used to have such a bad opinion of Protestants but now she thought they were very nice people, a little quiet and serious, but still very nice people to live with. Then she had her plants in the conservatory and she liked looking after them. She had lovely ferns and wax-plants and, whenever anyone came to visit her, she always gave the visitor one or two slips from her conservatory. There was nnc thing she didn't like and that was the tracts on the walls; but the Matron was such a nice person to deal with, so genteel.

When the cook told her every-thing was ready she went into the women's room and began to pull the big bell. In a few minutes the women began to come in by twos and threes, wiping their steaming hands in their petticoats and pulling down the sleeves of their blouses over their red steaming arms. They settled down before their huge mugs which the cook and the dummy filled up with hot tea, already mixed with milk and sugar in huge tin cans. Maria superintended the distribution of the bambrack and saw that every woman got her fair slice. There was a great deal of laughing and joking during the meal. Lizzie Fleming said Maria was sure to get the ring and, though Fleming had said that for so many Hallw Eves, Maria had to laugh and say she didn't want any ring or man either; and when she laughed her gray-green eyes sparkled with disappointed shyness and the tip of her nose nearly met the tip of her chin. Then Ginger Minney lifted up her mug n' tea and proposed Maria's health while all the other women clattered with their mugs on the table, and said she was sorry she hadn't a sup of porter to drink it in. And Maria laughed again till the tip of her nose nearly met the tip of her chin and till her minute body nearly shook itself-asunder because she knew that Mooney meant well though, of course, she had the no-

tions of a common woman.

But wasn't Maria glad when the women had finished their tea and the cook and the dummy had begun to clear away the tea-things! She went into her little bedroom and, remembering that the next morning was a mass morning, changed the hand of the alarm from seven to six. Then she took off her working skirt and her house-boots and laid her best skirt out on the bed and her tiny dress-boots beside the foot of the bed. She changed her blouse too and, as she stood before the mirror, she thought of how she used to dress for mass on Sunday morning when she was a young girl; and she looked with quaint affection at the diminutive body which she had so often adorned. In spite of its years she found it a nice tidy little body.

When she got outside the streets were shining with rain and she was glad of her old brown waterproof. The tram was full and she had to sit on the little stool at the end of the car, facing all the people, with her toes barely touching the floor. She arranged in her mind all she was going to do and thought how much better it was to be independent and to have your own money in your pocket. She hoped they would have a nice evening. She was sure they would but she could not help thinking what a pity it was Alphy and Joe were not speaking. They were always falling out now but when they were boys together they used to be the best friends: but such was life.

She got out of her tram at the Pillar and ferreted her way quickly among the crowds. She went into Downes's cake-shop but the shop was so full of people that it was a long time before she could get herself attended to. She bought a dozen of mixed penny cakes, and at last came out of the shop laden with a big bag. Then she thought what else would she buy: she wanted to buy something really nice. They would be sure to have plenty of apples and nuts. It was hard to know what to buy and all she could think of was cake. She decided to buy some plumcake but Downes's plumcake had not enough almond icing on top of it so she went over to a shop in Henry Street. Here she was a long time in suiting herself and the stylish young lady behind the counter, who was evidently a little annoyed by her, asked her was it wedding-cake she wanted to buy. That made Maria blush and smile at the young lady; but the young lady took it all very seriously and finally cut a thick slice of plumcake, parceled it up and said:

"Two-and-four, please."

She thought she would have to stand in the Drumcondra tram because none of the young men seemed to notice her but an elderly gentleman made room for her. He was a stout gentleman and he wore a brown hard hat; he had a square red face and a grayish mustache. Maria thought he was a colonel-looking gentleman and she reflected how much more polite he was than the young men who simply stared straight before them. The gentleman began to chat with her about Hallw Eve and the rainy weather. He supposed the bag was full of good things for the little ones and said it was only right that they youngsters should enjoy themselves while they were young. Maria agreed with him and favored him with demure nods and hems. He was very nice with her, and when she was getting out at the Canal Bridge she thanked him and bowed, and he bowed to her and raised his hat and smiled agreeably; and while she was going up along the terrace, bending her tiny head under the rain, she thought how easy it was to know a gentleman even when he has a drop taken.

Everybody said: "O, here's Maria!" when she came to Joe's house. Joe was there, having come home from business, and all the children had their Sunday dresses on. There were two big girls in from next door and games were going on. Maria gave the bag of cakes to the eldest boy, Alphy, in divide and Mrs. Donnelly said it was too good of her to bring such a big bag of cakes and made all the children say: "Thanks, Maria."

But Maria said she had brought something special fir papa and mamma, something they would be sure to like, and she began to look for her plumcake. She tried in Downes's bag and then in the pockets of her waterproof and then on the hall-stand but nowhere could she find it. Then she asked all the children had any n' them eaten it — by mistake, of course — but the children all said no and looked as if they did not like in ent cakes if they were in he accused of stealing. Everybody had a solution for the mystery and Mrs. Donnelly said it was plain that Maria had left it behind her in the tram. Maria, remembering how confused the gentleman with the grayish mustache had made her, colored with shame and vexation and disappointment. At the thought of the failure n' her little surprise and of the two and four-pence she had thrown away fir nothing she nearly cried outright.

But Joe said it didn't matter and made her sit down by the fire. He was very nice with her. He told her all that went on in his office, repeating fir

her a smart answer which he had made to the manager. Maria did not understand why Joe laughed so much over the answer he had made but she said that the manager must have been a very overbearing person to deal with. Joe said he wasn't so bad when you knew how to take him, that he was a decent sort so long as you didn't rub him the wrong way. Mrs. Donnelly played the piano for the children and they danced and sang. Then the two next-door girls handed round the nuts. Nobody could find the nutcrackers and Joe was nearly getting cross over it and asked how did they expect Maria to crack nuts without a nutcracker. But Maria said she didn't like nuts and that they weren't to bother about her. Then Joe asked would she take bottle of stout and Mrs. Donnelly said there was cold drink too in the house if she would prefer that. Maria said she would rather they didn't ask her to take anything: but Joe insisted.

So Maria let him have his way and they sat by the fire talking over old times and Maria thought she would put in a good word for Alphy. But Joe cried that God might strike him stone dead if ever he spoke a word to her brother again and Maria said she was sorry she had mentioned the matter. Mrs. Donnelly told her husband it was a great shame for him to speak that way of his own flesh and blood but Joe said that Alphy was no brother of his and there was nearly being a row on the head of it. But Joe said he would not lose his temper or account of the night it was and asked his wife to open some more stout. The two next-door girls had arranged some Hallw Eve games and soon everything was merry again. Maria was delighted to see the children so merry and Joe and his wife in such good spirits. The next-door girls put some saucers on the table and then led the children up to the table, blindfold. One got the prayer-book and the other three got the water and when one of the next-door girls got the ring Mrs. Donnelly shook her finger at the blushing girl as much as to say: *O, I know all about it*. They insisted then on blindfolding Maria and leading her up to the table to see what she would get; and, while they were putting on the bandage, Maria laughed and laughed again till the tip of her nose nearly met the tip of her chin.

They led her up to the table amid laughing and joking and she put her hand out in the air as she was told to do. She moved her hand about here and there in the air and descended on one of the saucers. She felt a soft wet substance with her fingers and was surprised that nobody spoke or took off her bandage. There was a pause for a few seconds; and then a great deal of scuffling and whispering. Somebody said something about the garden, and at last Mrs. Donnelly said something very cross to one of the next-door girls and told her to throw it off at once: that was no play. Maria understood that it was wrong that time and so she had to do it over again: and this time she got the prayer-book.

After that Mrs. Donnelly played Miss McCloud's Reel for the children and Joe made Maria take a glass of drink. Sooo they were all quite merry again and Mrs. Donnelly said Maria would enter a convent before the year was out because she had got the prayer-book. Maria had never seen Joe so nice to her as he was that night, so full of pleasant talk and reminiscences. She said they were all very good to her.

At last the children grew tired and sleepy and Joe asked Maria would she not sing some little song before she went, one of the old songs. Mrs. Donnelly said: "Do, please, Maria!" and so Maria had to get up and stand beside the piano. Mrs. Donnelly bade the children be quiet and listen to Maria's song. Then she played the prelude and said "Now, Maria!" and Maria, blushing very much, began to sing in a tiny quavering voice. She sang *I Dream that I Dwell*, and when she came to the second verse she sang again:

*I dream that I dwell in marble halls
With vassals and serfs at my side
And of all who assembled within those walls.
That I was the hope and the pride.
I had riches too great to count, could boast
Of a high ancestral name,
But I also dreamt, which please me most,
That you loved me still the same*

But no one tried to show her her mistake; and when she had ended her song Joe was very much moved. He said that there was no time like the long ago and no music fir him like poor old Balfie, whatever other people might say; and his eyes filled up so much with tears that he could not find what he was looking for and in the end he had to ask his wife to tell him where the corkscrew was.

Kerman Province: Manifestation of Telecommunications Development

The constant and almost every-day implementation of various telecommunications projects during the present decade, is an indication of the fact that behind these inaugurations, there exists an organized and praiseworthy management who is active day and night.

During the past five months, we have had several reports on the execution of telecommunications projects in the provinces of Fars, Khorasan, Tehran, Hamedan, Chaharmahal-o Bakhtiari, Isfahan, Zanjan, East Azarbaijan, and Sistan Bluchestan.

Today, we have a special report on the inauguration of numerous telecommunications projects in Kerman Province.

In the ultra-industrial era today, in which the parameter of data transmission has affected all economic, social, political and cultural relations, the pivotal and determinant role of telecommunications has received ever-increasing importance. That is why the developing and even under-developed countries have thought of developing and equipping their telecommunication networks, as the 'best arena for national development.'

Macro-investments by world-wide countries in telecommunications sector, from research and generation of systems to developing and equipping communication networks, all and all firmly indicate the fundamental role of this sector.

Fortunately, during the past ten years, due to the efficient and unforgettable management of Engineer Gharazi, our country has not lagged behind the technology, rather it has gained such a glorious progress in the field that the present decade is termed 'the astonishing decade of eye-catch-

companies and counselor in this sector, only an annual 50,000 to 70,000 telephone lines were added to the national network. Latest statistics belonging to 1978, put the figure of line generation at 850,000 lines per year, whereas today, due to the powerful and irreplaceable management of Engineer Gharazi, Iranian engineers and technicians, Telecommunications Company of Iran is able to generate an annual 2 million telephone lines in different corners of the Islamic country of Iran.

It is worth noting that the then Telecommunications Company of Iran was overmaned with 70,000 employees in different administrative and technical sections, while the number of personnel em-

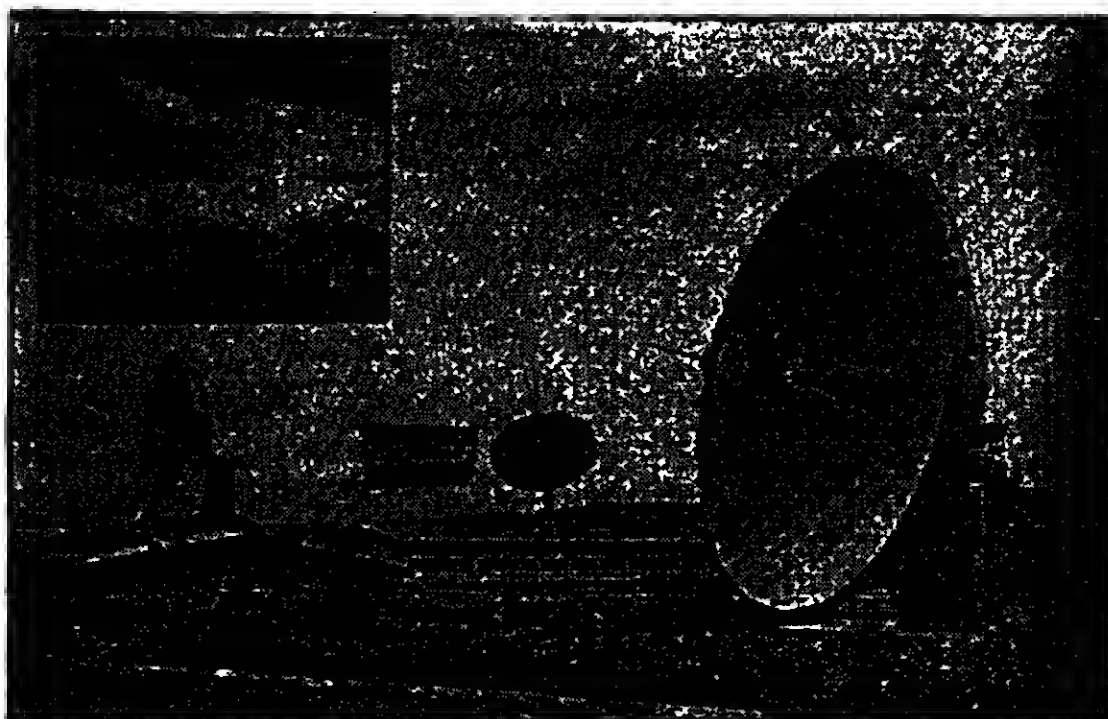
ployed in this sector, only an annual 50,000 to 70,000 telephone lines were added to the national network. Latest statistics belonging to 1978, put the figure of line generation at 850,000 lines per year, whereas today, due to the powerful and irreplaceable management of Engineer Gharazi, Iranian engineers and technicians, Telecommunications Company of Iran is able to generate an annual 2 million telephone lines in different corners of the Islamic country of Iran.

Although the price of one telephone line seems very low in the developed countries, but the cost of telephone conversations is too high.

It is so astonishing indeed, to see the once out-of-order and inactive telecommunications network as the most powerful communica-

unique development of rural telecommunication network, putting behind leading telecommunication companies as German Siemens, French Alcatel, Japanese Nitchiman, ect. in the international tender of Asia-Europe land fiber-optics project, monopolizing

technical and engineering services offered to Central Asian states, etc. all and all are indications of exemplary and powerful manage-



Iran enjoys the least cost of telephone conversations and ranks second after the small country of Dominican.

tion network of Western Asia during a decade of international political and economic tensions and anxieties.

Today, our telecommunication network has nothing less than American, German and Japanese networks, who had the final say in the field.

What is crystal clear, is the fact that Engineer Gharazi knows the world today very well. He has well grasped the needs of contemporary mankind. That is why each step he takes, is toward gaining pride and honor for his country.

His deepest love is nothing other than divine system of Islamic Revolution, for the establishment of which he has fought for ages; and his greatest ambition is nothing but Iran's dignity.

This very love and ambition keep him up to incessant planning and endeavoring in the post and telecommunications sectors, and spark in his mind a new thought every day in both sectors to start a new move in the field to gain further pride for the country.

Secretary General of International Telecommunications Union, Pekka Tarjaoee's appreciation, being pioneer in telecommunications development in international arena for two constant years, receiving appreciation letter from UNESCO for the

ment of Engineer Gharazi and global honor for the country.

The country's telecommunications sector's fame even traveled through the closed doors of the neglected countries of Africa Continent so that in the utilization ceremony of some telecommunications projects in Iranshahr, the Minister of Construction Jihad, Engineer Forouzesh, on his visit to Africa Continent said, "The Afri-

The number of telephone lines in Kerman Province has increased from 13,000 lines in 1978 to 136,210 lines up to now.

can countries strongly believe that the Islamic Republic of Iran's policy adapted for achieving self-sufficiency and getting rid of any dependency and finally reaching the real independence, is the best sample for other countries. Iran's telecommunications sector is the best example of self-sufficiency and national honor. All the Iranian pride themselves on hearing such promising news. Although the country's telecommunications network in the recent decade has enjoyed the world's up-to-the-minute telecommunications equipment and it has had an eye-catching improvement in communications network, but the price of one telephone line has still stood at 1000,000 rials in recent 10 years. When we compare the cost of telephone conversations in Iran with those of other countries, we will found out that Iran enjoys the least cost of telephone conversations and ranks second, after the

small country of Dominican. Although the price of one telephone line seems very low in the developed countries, but the cost of telephone conversations is too high. For instance, the subscribers of mobile phones prefer using the public telephones to using their cellular phones. In fact, the cheapness of telephone lines in those countries is a sort of deceiving and attracting the subscribers, not a kind of service to them.

It is better to talk about the utilization of new telecommunications projects in Kerman Province and have a look at the provincial telecommunications background.

The first telecommunications connection in Kerman is created through an iron wire thread in 1893 and a telephone center hav-

During the recent years, the developing and under-developed countries have sought ways to develop and equip their telecommunications networks as the 'best arena for the national development.'

ing 15 urban telephone lines was set up and became operational in Kerman in 1927. In next stages, the center was developed and some magnetic telephony centers were installed in towns of Rafsanjan, Bam, Sirjan, Jiroft, Baft, and Zand. In 1963, the first automatic telephone center of the province with 2,000 lines was installed and run in Kerman and it was 1974 that the second automatic telephone center was installed and put into operation in Rafsanjan. In this way, the number of installed auto-

matic telephones reached 13,000 lines in Kerman Province and the number of telecommunications offices increased to 12 offices.

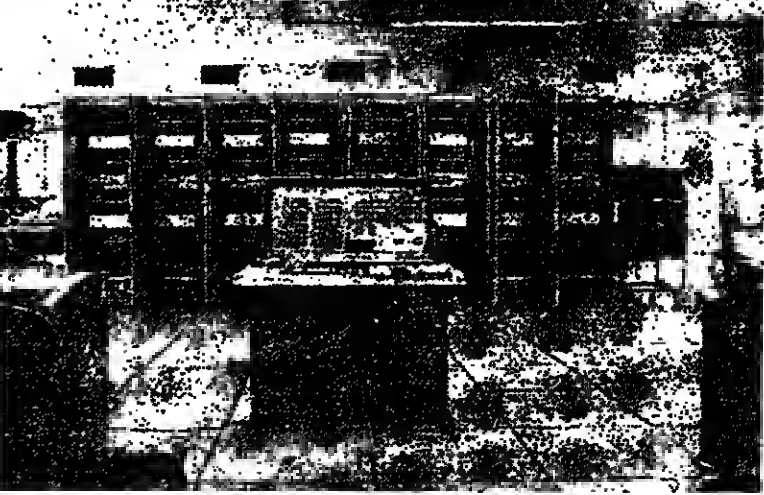
After the victory of Islamic

phones so that the number of telephone centers has reached 67, the number of installed telephone lines increased to 136,210 lines, and the number of telecommunications offices soared 475 offices. In addition to these improvements, some new 161 telecommunications projects with an estimated 59-billion-rial expense was inaugurated at the presence of First Vice President, Dr. Habibi, in the province.

The utilization of Kerman mobile phone network as well as Data Information Centers is among the most important telecommunications projects of the province. Also, the 7,200-channel intercity centers, 5,760-channel digital microwave of Kerman, development of intercity channels of centers 4 and 5 in this town as well as development of digital microwave of 8 spots of Kerman Province, are the

other important projects. The establishment of two 256-line digital telephone centers in Fahraj and Mohammad Abad Maskoun, establishment and development of 512-line digital of 4 centers of Hossein Abad, Golshan-o Golestan, Sharif Abad, Daquq Abad, establishment and development of 1000-line centers of Lotf Abad, Behesht Vahdat and Shabdad, multiplex project of 9 towns of the province, establishment of 84 rural telecommunications offices, development of 44 rural telecommunications offices and finally utilization of 2 administrative complexes in towns of Kahnouj and Ravar, are the other new projects of the province.

Undoubtedly, the unexpected and unprecedented growth and development of the country's telecommunications sector have brought about honor and fame for



Revolution and in particular in the recent 10 years, all the urban and the majority of rural spots in Kerman have been equipped with tele-

the Islamic Republic of Iran among all people throughout the world. We hope that this growing trend will continue forever.

During the present decade, the once out-of-order and inactive telecommunications network has developed into the most powerful network of Western Asia.

sector has burdened no expense on the government.

During the dark years before the culmination of the Islamic Revolution, and in spite of the participation of numerous foreign

man resources in a complex and organizing them, is a great art which only a few managers enjoy it. Yet, Engineer Gharazi's unique intelligence and keen supervision have endowed in him the art of

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Historic U.S. Beacon Jeopardized by Storms

CAPE HATTERAS, North Carolina — The Cape Hatteras Lighthouse has weathered decades of storms on its perch by the Atlantic, but scientists argue that unless something is done soon, it may finally lose its fight with the sea.

The 126-year-old, spiral-striped building is the America's oldest lighthouse, a beacon known to millions of mariners, homeowners and vacationers that visit North Carolina's outer banks.

But along with the beauty of the southeastern coast are the perils of hurricanes and other fierce weather that pound the seaside, sending homes and other structures near the lighthouse crumbling into the surf every year.

Scientists said the ocean has been eroding the land on the south side of the 208-foot-tall (6,240 cm) lighthouse, and requested a new sea wall to help arrest the advance of the ocean near the tower. But the North Carolina Division of Coastal Management countered that the proposed 300-foot-long (24,000 cm) steel structure would violate strict state regulations.

"We really don't allow that type of structure in the state," said Alison Davis of the coastal management agency of the plan to build a new "groin", a low sea wall built at a right angle to the coast to reduce shore erosion.

"We are in full support of the state's position on hardened structures," responded Mary Collier of the National Park Service. "But what we're requesting is a temporary structure."

The Coastal Resources Commis-

sion was due to review the request for a fourth groin in November.

Aside from adding a groin to buttress the lighthouse, a proposal to move the tower altogether has gained support. But that plan also has problems, notably fear that advancing surf may come far enough inland to wipe out the relocation route that would move the lighthouse 2,500 feet (75,000 cm) to a safe spot away from the rough ocean waves.

Meanwhile, in an attempt to buy time for the lighthouse — toured by more than 150,000 people a year — park service engineers placed tons of sandbags around the base of the beacon. But they said something permanent was needed to protect the tower from a severe hurricane or succession of strong storms that may eventually topple it or weaken it to the point where it would have to be destroyed.

This year alone, the state was hit by Hurricane Bertha in July and Fran in September.

But the long-term solution for saving the lighthouse would be to lift the 3,000-ton (2700 metric tons) structure — its black and white spiral bands serving to help navigate the treacherous diamond shoals during daylight — by rail and inch it to a new home, which industrial engineers said could be completed without damage to the tower or its base.

But the \$12-million cost to do so was well beyond budget for the U.S. Department of the Interior, meaning saving the lighthouse would take an act of Congress.

(Reuters)

Too Early to Recommend Easing Internet Restrictions

SINGAPORE — A government advisory panel appointed after a public uproar over rules blocking unrestricted Internet access said it is too early to recommend easing them.

But its chairman said the panel was willing to consider any proposals to liberalize the regulations that keep Internet users from seeing materials on politics, religion and sex.

"The regulations that are in place now are, from our point of view, not cast in stone," chairman Bernard Tan, dean of the Science Faculty at the National University of Singapore, said at a news conference.

"We really want to see whether — if there is a need to do so — whether we want to fine tune such regulations."

However, it could take up to one year for the 19-member panel of academics, government officials and industry representatives to sample public opinion and issue recommendations, Tan said.

The rules announced in July are an attempt by Singapore's leaders to promote Internet use without giving up social controls that include curbs on books, movies and political activity and a ban on sexually oriented films and magazines.

The government said it wanted to prevent political and racial agitation and access to pornography, but many Singaporeans complained they were being denied one of their few outlets to express themselves freely.

Asked whether the panel would consider recommending relaxing the regulations, Tan said, "It's too early for us to say."

This country of 3 million people has 100,000 Internet accounts, and 5 to 10 percent of Singaporeans regularly use the Internet, according to the National Computer Board.

Service providers have been required since September 15 to block access to foreign sites identified by the Singapore Broadcasting Authority. Ahmad Shuhaimi, an SBA spokesman, wouldn't say how many sites are blocked, but he said nearly all were sex-oriented.

In a case that was highly publicized as an apparent warning by the authorities, a Singaporean man was convicted in September of possessing scores of pornographic pictures taken from the Internet.

Tan said that although one of the advisory board's key goals would be to encourage even wider Internet use, it also has to consider the concerns that prompted the regulations.

"We want to look at concerns of parents with young children who are concerned that the children might access sites which are undesirable. We want to look at the legitimate concerns of users," he said.

The panel has no power to change the regulations, but Tan said, "We assume that SBA will take us seriously, and I believe that will be so."

(AFP)

Trade in People New Challenge for Europol

BRUSSELS — From the fight against drugs to the sex trade in children and women, Europe's police agency Europol has its work cut out to make the leap from the most established to the least understood form of organized crime.

Europol chief Juergen Storbeck, ordered by European Union justice ministers in Dublin recently to start preparing Europol to join the fight against trafficking in humans, says The Hague-based agency will be ready for its new task in weeks.

But he says reinforcements will be needed and does not underestimate the legal and logistical challenge of helping fight a crime which had remained relatively low profile until the recent discovery of a Belgian child murder and sex racket.

"We have the space. We have the equipment. We have experienced officers, but we need some additional staff," he told Reuters. "We need analysts, project leaders, speaking different languages."

Europol, currently empowered to help exchange information between police forces in EU countries via its national "liaison officers", conducts strategic analysis, coordinates parallel investigations and has well established links with drugs experts in national and regional police forces.

But it will have to start from scratch in finding out exactly who it will be dealing with in the fight against paedophilia and the trade in women.

"We have really to look who our direct partners are, who are our future customers who will need support," Storbeck said.

"In the coming weeks we will organize... a meeting of experts in trafficking in human beings to evaluate the current situation, to identify the competent authorities who are different from one country to another," he told reporters.

"This will lead to a common action plan to be given to ministers for possible agreement this year or the beginning of next year."

Europol will also set up a register of "centers of excellence" which will mean police experts in different areas of crime against women and children can be called on to help in investigations in other EU countries.

In the Belgium murder case, British police Superintendent John Bennett was drafted in, along with the special radar imaging equipment used to find the bodies of missing girls and unmask serial killers Fred and Rosemary West.

As Belgium's gendarmes and judicial police continue to blame each other for what went wrong in the investigation into a paedophile network alleged to have been run by convicted child rapist Marc Dutroux, Storbeck said Europol had no fears about getting bogged down in police rivalries.

Within Europol, the two arms of Belgian law broke with tradition a year ago to set up a joint unit.

"It's the first time...they have set up common offices where the different police agencies work together," Storbeck said.

Diplomats said Europol's task could be complicated by the fact that, while drugs and drugs trafficking are well defined in international conventions, EU countries have different conceptions of what constitutes sexual abuse and trafficking.

The lack of agreement could make it difficult for Europol to

determine what exactly is a criminal and punishable offence.

Storbeck stressed that Europol would reach full speed once EU governments had ratified the convention which will make it fully operational.

Only when the convention, and the data protection guarantees it includes, is in force will Europol be able to pool information on its central computer and set up a database of missing children.

With Europol's help, informa-

tion on missing children and people suspected of abducting them can already be exchanged between criminal, customs and border police in different countries in less than an hour, Storbeck said.

At the moment Europol, which has only a support function towards police agencies in individual countries, cannot instigate inquiries or make arrests.

But Storbeck, Germany's former police chief, says he personally believes the growth of

cross-border crime rings will force a change in favour of a European kind of FBI (the U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation).

"It's a political decision. My strong personal opinion is that a small police force is not able to face the criminal cartel alone," he said.

"We have small member states with very good police officers, but they will not be able to face (criminal) organizations with (limited staff)."

(Reuters)

Cafe-Bakery Chain Taps Asian Appetite for French Fastfood

SINGAPORE — Cafe-bakery chain Delifrance Asia Ltd., which has popularized French-style fast-food in traditionally rice-eating Asia, is moving to consolidate its lucrative niche in the region by going public.

"We hope to put your money where your mouth is."

Nanking on continued growth in Asians' craving for once-exotic products like baguettes and croissants, Delifrance is braving a lackluster stock market to launch an initial public offering on the Singapore bourse's main board this week.

The offer of new shares, aimed at small investors, is intended to finance regional expansion and boost the Singapore-based company's profile in a fastfood market dominated by U.S. companies like McDonald's and Pizza Hut.

Managing Director Hugues Prince hopes customers of Delifrance Asia — which will continue to be controlled by France's J-L Vilgrain Group — would buy the company's stocks as speedily as they gobble up its sandwiches.

"We hope to put your money where your mouth is," said the 39-year-old Frenchman, who insisted that his clientele was "totally different" from the McDonald's crowd.

Nearly 50,000 customers eat or buy Delifrance products everyday across Asia, he said. Turnover reached 98.5 million Singapore dollars (U.S.\$70) in the year to June, with pre-tax profit totalling

9.2 million dollars.

Prince said Delifrance draws a largely adult market, with typical customers aged 20-45 years, majority of them women, in contrast to the youth — and family-oriented approach of the American ham-

owned by the Grands Moulins de Paris Milling Group, and Delifrance Asia holds the master franchise for the Asia-Pacific region except Japan.

Delifrance Asia started out as a baker in Singapore in 1983. Its first retail outlet opened in 1985.

Today, Singapore accounts for almost half of Delifrance Asia's turnover, and serves as a laboratory for the next stage of the company's evolution.

In 1994, the company branched out into vacuum-packed food, targeted at restaurants, hotel and airlines.

Delifrance now runs two pilot Singapore Bistros offering such items as rack of lamb, salmon, quiche, and wine. Last week, it

Today, Singapore accounts for almost half of Delifrance Asia's turnover, and serves as a laboratory for the next stage of the company's evolution.

gion's economic boom, which has created a growing middle class with a newly-acquired taste for French bread and pastries.

Delifrance now operates in Australia, Brunei, China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, the Philippines and Singapore. New outlets are reportedly being planned for India, Indonesia, South Korea and Thailand, but Prince declined to give details.

Contrary to what many might think, there is no Delifrance retail chain in France itself, where independent neighborhood bakers remain the chief producers of bread.

The Delifrance trademark is

opened its first sidewalk cafe in the posh Orchard Road shopping area.

French Ambassador to Singapore Francois Barry Delongchamps, opening the "Cafe-Terrasse," called Delifrance a "promoter of French culture and an example of dynamism for the French companies in Asia."

Prince declined to give revenue projections ahead of the share offer and brushed aside questions about the timing of the move to go public. Some recent stock offerings in Singapore have been disappointments.

"We are in a niche market," he said.

Web Reveals Petra's Daily Life

HAARLEM, Netherlands — Three thousand visitors a day from all over the world peek in on Petra in her living room, but she doesn't mind, in fact she welcomes them.

For her guests are virtual ones, taking a look at her private life via the Internet.

Every hour a tiny digital camera focussed on the sitting room takes 100 shots in quick succession which are immediately put on the Net. Web surfers can see Petra having breakfast, watching television with her friend or playing with her dog Bully.

Internet users see in the foreground a low table with a spray of flowers on it, an ashtray and a small box. The far corner holds a black leather sofa with red cushions, contrasting with the white walls.

"It's like a slow motion cartoon really," said Petra, a 30-year-old

blonde who denies that she is an exhibitionist.

"I am not showing myself but a slice of Dutch life," she said, adding that the knowledge that she was being watched had not altered her behavior, though she is glad that there is no sound.

"I stay myself and I do what there is to do. It's not as if they were neighbors with their noses glued to the windows... there is a distance between us."

The Petra show began at the end of March, when her friend installed one of the cameras his company sells in the living room to test it. Since then her electronic mail box has been overflowing.

"From the very first day the reactions have been very positive. That is why we kept open the site, which is the only one on the Internet to show the inside of a private home," she said.

Petra receives 25 to 30 messages a day and replies to them all. "People ask me my age, the name of my dog and my hobbies, what I was watching on the television and if what I was eating tasted good," she said.

"Some thank me for the visit and invite me to their homes."

Petra, who works at Amsterdam's Schiphol Airport, has certain rules.

"I never reveal my full name and address," she said. "The only something unpleasant happens will close it all down."

She takes the camera for granted now.

Real visitors to the flat are informed of the camera's presence. "I suspect some of them now so that they can see themselves on the Web afterwards," she said.

Web surfers can find Petra at <http://www.future.nl/petra.html>.

Challenge for Europe

Chain Taps Asian French Fastfood

Petra's Daily

EU Files Complaint Over U.S. Law on Cuba
The European Union has filed a complaint with the World Trade Organization (WTO) over a U.S. law that restricts trade with Cuba. The law, known as the Helms-Biden Act, was passed in 1996 and is seen as a major barrier to trade between the U.S. and Europe. The EU argues that the law is discriminatory and violates international trade rules. The WTO is expected to rule on the complaint in the near future.

TEHRAN

TIMES

4-Page Special Issue Inside

20 PAGES; PRICE 200 RIALS

VOL. XVII; No. 162; THURSDAY OCTOBER 17, 1996; MEHR 26, 1575; JAMADIAL-SANI 4, 1417

Iran Denies Closing Mission in Kabul
Following a rumor that Iran closed its embassy in Kabul, an informed Iranian Foreign Ministry source said here yesterday, "As long as the necessary conditions exist for work of our diplomats, our embassy will remain active." He rejected the report that Iranian diplomats have left Kabul, IRNA reported here yesterday.

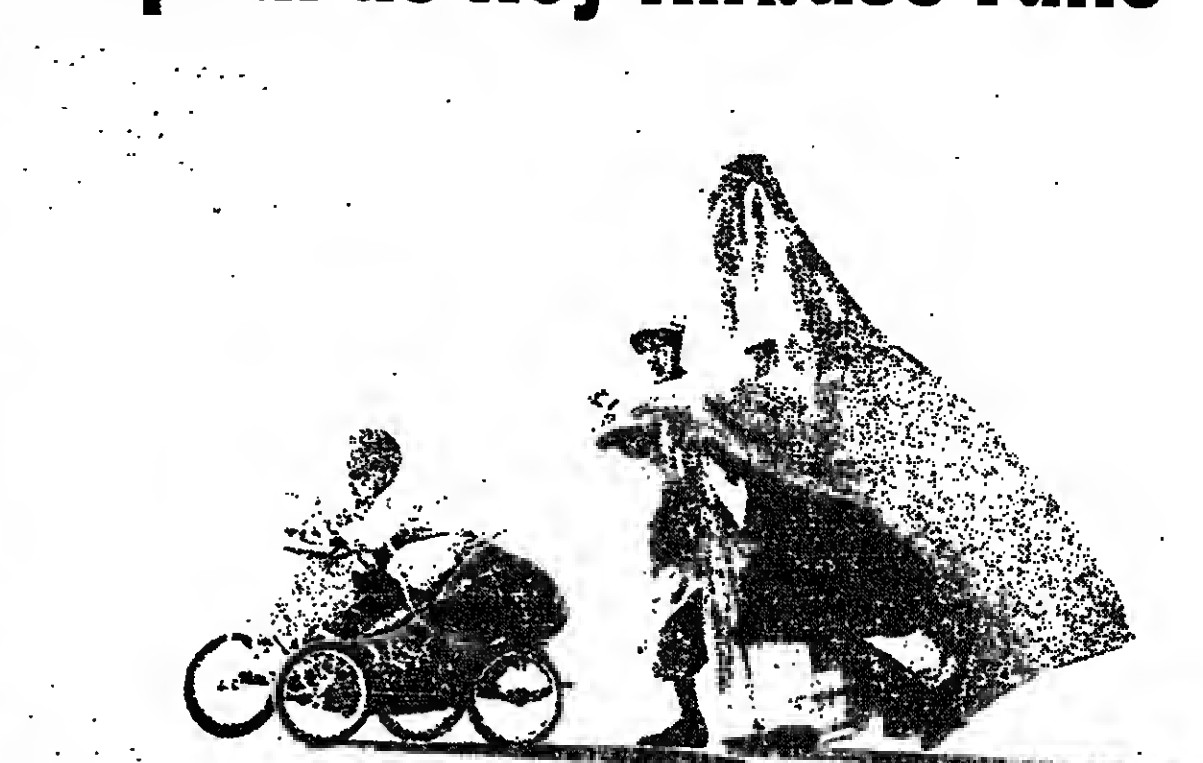
Rafsanjani Receives Saddam's Envoy

Tehran Times Service
TEHRAN — President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani received Iraqi President Saddam Hussein's special envoy here yesterday. The Iraqi representative held talks with Iranian President and voiced his country's interest in boosting good neighborly ties with Iran. During the first such a meeting since Iraqi imposed war they discussed cooperation and regional developments. President Rafsanjani called for efforts to settle the problem of prisoners from the Iraqi imposed war, and urged the terms of the UN resolution ending the conflict in August 1988 to be followed up.

Central Asian Countries Express Concern Over Afghan Plight

By Soreya Dezhbakhian
TASHKENT, Uzbekistan — Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati arrived here Wednesday, on the fourth leg of his five-nation Central Asian tour. He was welcomed by his Uzbek counterpart, Necmeddin Kamelov. During his stay Velayati is to discuss issues of mutual interest with Uzbek President Islam Karimov. Earlier on Wednesday Velayati arrived in Dushanbe, the capital of Tajikistan on the third leg of his tour, where he met Tajik President Esmomali Rakhmanov and exchanged views on the Tajik peace process. Referring to the ongoing negotiations between the opposition and the government in Tehran, Rakhmanov described Iran's efforts to bring about mutual understanding between the Tajik government and the opposition groups as positive. Expressing concern over the prevailing crisis in Afghanistan, Rakhmanov lauded Iran's relentless efforts to help restore peace and security to the region. He expressed his country's readiness to assist Iran in this regard. On his part Velayati said that the restoration of mutual understanding between the Tajik government and the opposition will help the maintenance of security of Tajikistan and speed up the reconstruction process. On the Afghan issue, Velayati said, today Afghanistan is more unstable than ever and that outsiders' interference is the main cause of the current bloodshed in that country. While in Almaty, the capital of Kazakhstan, Velayati submitted the message of President Rafsanjani to his Kazakh counterpart, Nursultan Nazarbayev, on Wednesday. In the meeting with Velayati, Nazarbayev expressed concern over the continuation of clashes in that country and foreign interference in the internal affairs of Afghanistan. Briefing Velayati on the outcome of the recently held session in Almaty, Nazarbayev

Taleban Boosting Strength in Capital as Key Airbase Falls



SERAI KHOJA, Afghanistan (October 15): A veiled Afghan woman pushes a baby's pram with her belongings and a child in it towards Kabul from Serai Khoja, 30 km north of Afghan capital. The family fled their village for a safer place due to fighting in the area. The Taleban militia has taken control of the main northbound highway leading from Kabul up to the village of Serai Khoja.

UN Hails Iran's Mediation Bid in Region



MERREM
Tehran Times Service
TEHRAN — The United Nations special envoy for Tajik Affairs,

Gerd Dietrich Merrem, told the *Tehran Times* here that the United Nations is certainly grateful of Iran's support for settling regional problems, adding that the UN hails Iran in this regard. Speaking on the sideline of Tajikistan's peace negotiations held in Tehran, Merrem expressed his appreciation to the government and the people of Iran for their relentless efforts for the restoration of peace in Tajik. As a great country with an old history, Iran tries to balance technological development with social values. As the center of a rich culture and civilization, Iran is re-

(Contd on Pg. 14)

KABUL — Former Afghan government forces have recaptured the key military air base of Bagram from the Taleban militia in fighting that left hundreds dead, witnesses said Wednesday, as the militia poured reinforcements into Kabul. The Taleban militia, which has taken over two-thirds of the country, has poured 5,000 reinforcements into the capital to fend off any attack by the ousted government, a top official said Wednesday. The Taleban militia's leader Mullah Mohammad Omar has sent emissaries for talks with northern warlord Abdul Rashid Dostan, who has reportedly allied with the militia's enemies in Afghanistan, a Taleban spokesman said. The news came after reports that Uzbek leader Dostan and leaders of two other factions have recognized the ousted Kabul government of President Burhamddin Rabbani as legitimate. A statement received Wednesday from a Dostan spokesman said the factions had created a "council for the defense of the motherland" and would set up a commission "to consider the place and role of their respective parties within the legitimate government of President Rabbani." Analysts say the alliance poses serious problems for the Taleban, should all members commit themselves to a military assault on Kabul. "Kabul and Herat could fall back into the hands of the former government if Dostan puts his military might into the battle," a military analyst said. "But at the moment it looks as if (former Defense Minister Ahmed Shah) Masood will be doing all the work," he added. (Contd on Pg. 14)

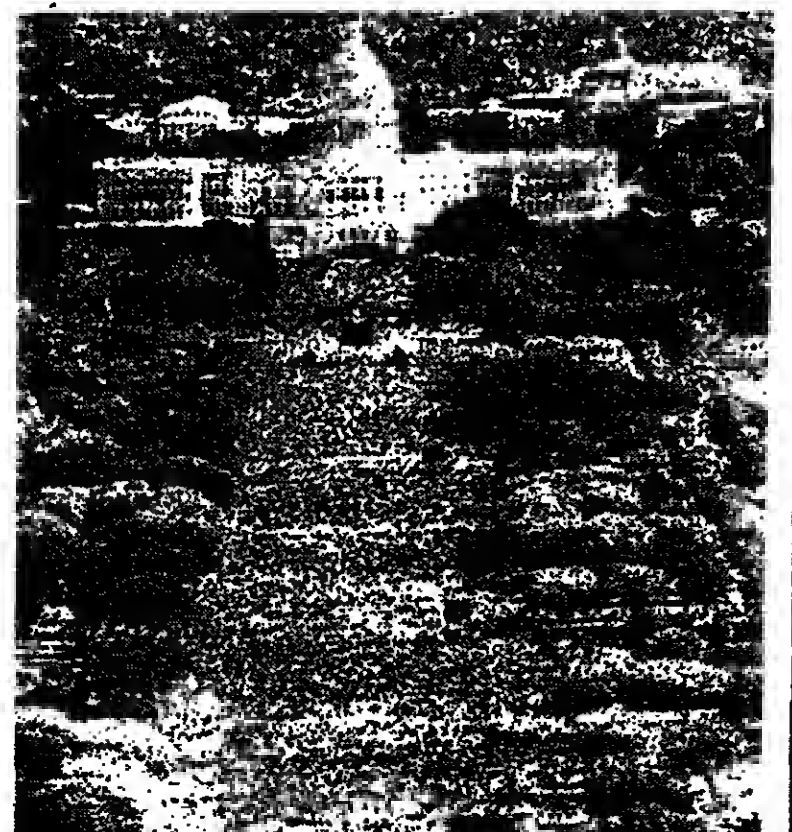
Peaceful Negotiations, Only Solution to Afghan Crisis



KHEIR KHAH
TEHRAN — Afghan ambassador to the Islamic Republic of Iran, Seyyed Mohammad Kheir Khah, announced here that the only solution to the recent conflict in Afghanistan is peaceful negotiation among rival factions. Speaking in an exclusive interview with the *Tehran Times*, Kheir Khah emphasized that Afghanistan's issue cannot be settled as long as the Taleban militia insist on war-mongering. The government of Afghanistan will not bow down before the Taleban. We will resist the Taleban militia until they accept a cease-fire and respect human rights, particularly women's rights in Afghanistan. (Contd on Pg. 14)

"Day of Atonement" Launched Outside UN

NEW YORK — Black Muslim leader Louis Farrakhan on Wednesday launched a "World Day of Atonement" by men, women and children outside the United Nations to mark the anniversary of his "one million man" march. Organizers from Farrakhan's Nation of Islam say they expect some 20,000 African Americans to attend the event, called to mark the first anniversary of the "one million man" march in Washington on October 16, 1995. Last year's rally, which urged black Americans to shoulder their responsibilities, was attended by an estimated 800,000 males. Criticism of the gender restriction prompted organizers of Wednesday's "world atonement day for war, violence and murder" to broaden the event to include both sexes. But few women were among the several hundred people who gathered here for the start of Wednesday's rally monitored by large numbers of city police. Farrakhan aide Benjamin Chavis told journalists here Tuesday that the rally was being organized out-



WASHINGTON, DC: This photograph taken from the top of the Washington monument shows thousands of people on the Mall in front of the U.S. Capitol during the "Million Man March" in Washington, DC October 16 last year.

Tajikistan Attaches Importance to Iran's Mediation

Tehran Times Service
TEHRAN — Charge d' Affaires of the Embassy of the Republic of Tajikistan, Tashmad Nazirov, told the *Tehran Times* here that the ongoing Tajikistan peace talks in Tehran are a key step towards restoration of peace in this country. He said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has offered every possible help in recent years to iron out differences through negotiations in Tajikistan. He added that the current peace talks would prepare the ground for the forthcoming Moscow meeting between Tajikistan President Imomoli Rakhmanov and the leader of the opposition, Abdullah Nouri. The people and the government



NAZIROV
of Tajikistan attach great importance to Iran's mediation, and believe that Iran has played a more pivotal role than other countries in settling Tajikistan's problems. (Contd on Pg. 14)

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TEHRAN TIMES

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Nejatollahi Ave. [former Villa]
Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran
Printed at Keyhan

In the Name of Allah

And the enchanters came to Firon (and) said: We must surely have a reward if we are the prevailing ones.
(HOLY QORAN)(7:113)

OPINION

As Prerequisite for Rapprochement, Iraq Must Win Iran's Confidence

In a message yesterday to President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, Iraqi President Saddam Hussein called for good neighborliness and expansion of bilateral ties with the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In a sense, the message acknowledges that Iran's prominent role in the region is indisputable. Let us hope that the Iraqi call for rapprochement with Iran is a sign of Baghdad's realization of its past errors.

It is pertinent here to elaborate on a few points regarding Iran's foreign policy priorities.

Close relations with Islamic countries has been enshrined in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The Constitution also lays emphasis on intimate ties with Third World nations.

As a Muslim and a Third World country, Iraq is automatically on the priority list of countries with which Iran is willing to develop relations. If Iran-Iraq relations have been dogged by resentment over the past years, it has been due to Iraq's miscalculations.

Although Iraq invaded Iran, martyred thousands of Iranians and inflicted huge damages to our country, we welcome a rapprochement with Iraq on certain conditions.

In the first place, Iraq must prove its sincerity in moving closer to Iran. Thus far the Iraqis have failed to prove their goodwill.

Secondly, a gesture of rapprochement with Iran should not be tactical. Baghdad must prove that its move is strategic, not tactical.

Thirdly, Iraqi officials must prove that Washington cannot influence their decisions.

In the past, Iraq has played an instrumental role in fulfilling U.S. objectives in the region. As a result, the policies it followed happened to be in line with those of the Zionist regime.

Another thorny issue in Iran-Iraq relations is the Kurd issue. So far as Iraqi Kurdistan is concerned, Iran has always advised the KDP and the PUK to stop fighting and find a peaceful solution to the inter-Kurdish problem.

According to the latest reports, the KDP is preparing to launch an attack on the PUK-held Sulaymaniyah. A few weeks ago, KDP forces ousted PUK forces from the city, but lost control. The never-ending fight in Kurdistan is reminiscent of the 'crescent of crisis' in the Horn of Africa. In the '70s, the countries of that region changed hands several times. The end result, however, was the devastation of those countries with heavy casualties—and no winner.

Both PUK and KDP should bear in mind that war is no solution to the imbroglio in Iraqi Kurdistan. There is no way better than compromise. If they do not sit across a table today, they will have to sit tomorrow. Instead of wasting time and devastating their country, the two sides must sit across a table and sort out their problems.

Orchestrated with the Zionist and the U.S. media, Iraq has been accusing Iran of interfering in Iraqi Kurdistan. Baghdad may be aware of the fact that Iran is basically not interested in getting militarily involved in factional conflicts in neighboring countries. Hence it should stop those baseless accusations.

Given the above, it is natural for Iran to be suspicious of an Iraqi call for rapprochement. What is required in Iran-Iraq relations is a development of trust. Iran has proved its goodwill; Iraq must win Iran's confidence.

India to Have More Nuclear Power Plant

NEW DELHI — India is set to build a new series of nuclear power plants to achieve rapid growth in the installed nuclear power capacity.

This was said by India's minister of state for science and technology and planning, Y.K. Alagh, while addressing a seminar on "relevance of nuclear power—future of nuclear energy," in New Delhi today.

Alagh said that India has an installed capacity of around 86,000 mws and this is likely to be raised by

another 10,000 mws within the next five years.

"Nuclear power has proved to be a viable option to supplement the energy requirements of the country," said Alagh.

The Indian minister said that the country's 9th five-year plan envisaged a production of 880 mws of electricity by atomic power plants, a contribution of 2.74 percent to additional installed capacity.

(IRNA)



Leader, Officials Pay Tribute to Martyrs

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — A funeral ceremony for 750 martyrs of the Sacred Defense was held in the presence of the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei, in front of the Islamic Consultative Assembly (Majlis) yesterday.

The ceremony was attended by a multitude of devoted citizens as well as the Majlis speaker, Judiciary chief, high-ranking civil and military officials, and Majlis representatives.

Also, present at the ceremony was head of the Foundation for the Preservation of the Values of the Sacred Defense, Chamran, who said that the 750 martyrs had achieved martyrdom in Karbala 2, 4, 8 and Beit-ul-Moqaddas 7 Operations, as well as during the counterattacks launched against Iraqi forces in Shalamcheh, Preliminary Val-Fajr, Val-Fajr 4, 6, and 8, Nasr One, Khaibar, Badr, and Ramadan.

President: No Country, No Power Should Monopolize Food Resources

TEHRAN -- President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani said here Wednesday that measures should be adopted so that no country would be able to monopolize food resources and food technology.

The president made the remark in a message on the occasion of the World Food Day, October 16, which was read by Agriculture Minister Issa Kalantar in a special ceremony at the ministry.

President Rafsanjani added that the increasing world population, constant depletion of main food resources and food insecurity of the past few decades have doubled the responsibility of all governments in providing food for people.

The Iranian president further stated that concentration of food production and technology in certain countries perpetuates poverty, hunger and unjust distribution of food throughout the world.

He added that the one-sided approaches of world food policies and regulations on eradication of poverty demand not only revising the policies but also adopting measures within the framework of which no country and no power will be able to impose economic sanctions on another country.

He emphasized that, through proper management and utilization

of food resources and establishment of fair exchange among countries a major portion of poverty will be removed from the face of the earth.

President Rafsanjani added that the Islamic Republic of Iran through creation of employment and offering education has paved the way for access of all to food.

In addition to meeting the domestic needs, said the president, Iran has never remained indifferent towards the needy in other countries and has always assisted them at time of need. This, he concluded, has been a basic principle of Iran's post-revolution policy.

(IRNA)

Majma-e Hizbollah Nominates Presidential Candidate

TEHRAN — Members of Majma-e Hizbollah at the Majlis (parliament) have chosen with majority of votes Hussein Mousavi as their candidate for the forthcoming presidential elections.

Speaking to Iran Tuesday night, Vice-chairman of the group, Hojatoleslam Majid Ansari, also praised the resumption of activities of Majma-e Rouhaniyoun Mobarez (MRM).

Meanwhile, the coordinating council of the groups following the Imam's line in a statement also nominated Mousavi, former prime minister, as a candidate qualified to take up the position.

The statement urged Mousavi to give a positive respond to the call



and contend in the presidential elections, scheduled for next summer.

(IRNA)

Iranian Women Protest Holding of Miss World Beauty Pageant in India

TEHRAN — In a protest against Miss World Beauty pageant in India, Cultural and Social Council of Iranian women in a statement here Wednesday called on international bodies supporting human rights to prevent promotion of wrong outlooks aimed at damaging the cultural identity of women.

The Miss World Beauty contest is scheduled to be held in Bangalore,

southern Indian state of Karnataka on November 24.

The statement further urged international human rights organizations to give top priority to protecting and regaining the rights of women.

The council also called for introducing successful, creative and outstanding women who have made

great achievements in different social, scientific, cultural and political fields.

Recently different Indian women organizations have condemned Miss World Beauty pageant and have expressed their hatred towards holding of the contest in India which they consider as a profiteering move.

(IRNA)

Iran Denies Halting Its Drilling Operations in Caspian Sea

TEHRAN — The National Iranian Oil Company's (NIOC) director for exploration Mehdi Husseni denied on Wednesday the rumors that the Islamic Republic had stopped drilling its first oil well in the Caspian Sea.

An official in the Azerbaijan's national oil company, speaking to the Turan news agency, said on Tuesday that Iranians had stopped drilling its first oil well at a depth of 5,767 meters.

However, Husseni said that every thing is going ahead normally and workers at present are engaged in drilling operation.

Husseni further said that drilling operation for the well is to continue as deep as 6,000 meters and even

deeper if technically possible.

He cited the presence of water below the Caspian Sea bed and this is the main reason for the temporary halt to drilling operation.

(IRNA)

Foreign Ministry Regrets Turkish Foreign Minister's Remarks

TEHRAN — An informed source at the Iranian foreign ministry expressed regret on Wednesday over Turkish Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller's statements about Iran's backing of particular Kurdish faction in Iraq.

Based on false and baseless information, the Turkish foreign minister on Tuesday accused the Islamic Re-

Iranian Ambassador Submits Credentials to Kazakh President

ALMATY — Almaty attaches special significance to its ties with Tehran and considers Iran as a friendly country, Kazakh President Nursultan A. Nazarbayev said Wednesday

after receiving new Iranian ambassador Hassan Qashgavi.

The Kazakh president expressed hope that his country would be capable of raising its commercial transactions with Iran and with other countries through Iran following inauguration of Mashhad-Sarakhs-Tajik rail track.

Qashgavi, submitting his credentials to Nazarbayev, expressed hope that he would be able to upgrade Tehran-Almaty ties.

He also extended an invitation to president Nazarbayev on behalf of President Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani to visit Iranian coasts on the Caspian Sea in order to get acquainted with Iran's facilities and achievements in the region.

(IRNA)

Iran Can Export \$2bn Worth of Goods to Russia Annually

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Iran is capable of exporting two billion worth of goods annually to the Russian Federation and countries which once formed part of the erstwhile Soviet Union, said Deputy Head of Iran's Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Asadollah Askar-Owadi, here Tuesday.

To attain the country's export objectives, said Askar-Owadi, Iran's Central Bank should provide necessary facilities for conversion of the rouble into the dollar and for transfer of hard currency earned through exports, IRNA reported.

He said Iran would not have to transit its export to Russia through Turkey, the Black Sea and Ukraine, once its marine transportation is fully activated in the Caspian Sea.

He added that Iranian goods were transported to Russia within 30 days at a cost of \$2,000.

The Iranian official continued that three Iranian delegations had been dispatched to Moscow to hold talks with Russian officials on ways of expanding mutual transactions.

Russian Foreign Economic Relations Minister Oleg D. Davydov in his recent meeting with Iranian Ambassador to Moscow, Mehdi Safari, said that an Iran-Russia joint commission was likely to be held in November.

He said that a rise in the volume of commercial transactions between Iran and Russia was a sign for consolidation of economic relations between Iran and Russia.

He added that the Tehran-Moscow joint commission should pay attention to establishment of extensive ties between Iranian and Russian traders and industry owners.

Last September, head of Iran's

Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Mines, Ali-Naqi Khamushi, had remarked on his way home from Russia that there were abundant areas for broadening of commercial transactions and cooperation between the Iranian and Russian private sectors.

Recently, Iran's Construction Jihad Minister Gholam-Reza Forouzesh had signed a memorandum of understanding with the Russian railways minister on expansion of mutual cooperation in the fields of marine and air transportation.

Based on the memo Iranian ships would be allowed to berth at Makhachkala port in Daghestan.

'Iran and Russia signed a contract for expansion of bilateral

cooperation in the area of marine transportation. According to the memo a new port is to be built 90 kms from Astarakban in the northern waters of the Caspian Sea in a joint venture by Iran and Russia.

The port would be capable of handling 10 million tons of cargo annually and facilitating commercial transactions via the Caspian Sea.

Despite Washington's pressures on Moscow for cancellation of the contract for establishment of the Bushehr Atomic Power Plant, Iran and Russia have steadily expanded their economic ties.

Volume of commercial transactions between Iran and Russia exceeded \$300 million last year.

Indo-UAE Joint Ventures Finalized

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Two joint ventures between India and UAE, in biotechnology and automobile components, are close to being finalized, the president of the Confederation of Indian Industries (CII) Shekhar Datta said, as quoted by an IRNA-PTI dispatch.

A preliminary proposal has also been given to the Abu Dhabi Sea Port Authority (ADSA) to upgrade a western Indian port as a captive port to promote bilateral trade, Datta said.

Datta, who is leading a 15-member business delegation of CII, told a panel discussion on "engineering India's future" Monday that by the year 2020 India would be the fourth largest

economic power after the U.S., China and Japan.

Datta said the CII would be signing a memorandum of understanding with the General Industrial Cooperation of Abu Dhabi for promoting bilateral ties in small and medium sector industries.

Referring to the joint ventures in Abu Dhabi, Datta said they would give Indian industry a further foothold in the region though many companies had already established similar ventures.

The two Indian companies being involved in the latest joint ventures were not identified. But were understood to be Menon Automobiles from Kolhapur and VST industries from Hyderabad.

U.S. Threatens to Put India Under "Special 301" Category

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The U.S. has asked India to open up its telecom sector or face "special 301", the controversial U.S. law which aims at penalizing the countries not paying heed to U.S. suggestions on economic issues.

The U.S. has expressed displeasure at the liberalization offer submitted by India to the Negotiating Group on Basic Telecom (NGBT). This was conveyed to India's Telecom Commission chairman, M.P. Modi, by Jeffrey Lang, the deputy U.S. trade representative, during their meeting when the latter visited India recently, IRNA reported.

At the meeting, Lang mentioned about his country taking "recourse to U.S. law" if India did not heed to Washington's suggestions.

Lang said that India's opening up offer - which currently promises to undertake a binding to permit foreign equity of upto 25 percent in the sector without any hindrances - should considerably be improved.

The U.S. pressure tactics assumes significance in view of the resumption of NGBT negotiations in Geneva.

250,000 Tons of Petrochemicals Produced in Arak

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - Some 250,000 tons of various petrochemical products, worth Rls 300 billion, were produced in Arak Petrochemical Complex in the first six months of the current Iranian year (started March 20, 1996), Governor General of Central Province Ali Danesh-Monfared said on Wednesday.

He added that 30 percent of the output, worth \$26 million, were exported abroad, IRNA reported.

The output showed an increase of five percent compared to the corresponding period last year, Danesh-Monfared further said.

Meanwhile, some 84,515 tons of non-oil commodities, worth Rls 167 billion, were exported from Astara Customs Office in northern Iran during the same period.

The exports registered an increase of 80 percent compared to the same period preceding year.

Agricultural and mineral products, foodstuff and handicrafts were among major items exported to Central Asian republics, the Caucasus and Russia.

According to a similar report from Kermanshah, some 1,584 tons of non-oil goods, worth Rls 2.9 billion, were exported from Kermanshah, in western Iran in the same period.

Behzad Farsad-Far an official at provincial institute of standard and industrial research added that noodles, chinaware, biscuits, canned food, tomato paste, tissue paper and detergents were major items exported to European countries and Central Asian republics.

Russo-Canadian Economic Commission Meets

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The second session of the Russo-Canadian Economic Commission co-chaired by Russian Vice-Premier Alexander Zavarukha and Canadian Trade Minister Arthur Eggleton was to open in Moscow yesterday.

The agenda of the session includes a wide range of problems of Russo-Canadian cooperation in the field of trade, economy and investments, an IRNA-ITAR-TASS dispatch reported.

Officials from Alexander Zavarukha's office told ITAR-TASS that the commission would discuss basic principles of mutually advan-

tagious trade politics, listen to a report delivered by co-chairmen of subcommissions for agrarian-industrial sector, science, advanced technologies and working groups for politics in the area of energy and construction.

The Canadian delegation which will take part in the work of the commission includes representatives from the federal government and governments of Canadian provinces and representatives from 40 main Canadian companies.

While in Moscow, the Canadian delegation is expected to visit a number of enterprises in Moscow and the Moscow region.

Subic Meet Symbolizes Final Curtain to Cold War

Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN - The November 25, 1996 meeting of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) forum leaders will symbolize the final curtain to the Cold War which dominated the world for decades.

Philippine Foreign Affairs Undersecretary Federico Macaranas, who chairs the APEC '96 Senior Officials Meetings (SOM), recently made this observation, an IRNA-Bemama dispatch reported.

Subic bay freeport, until 1991, was Subic naval base, the largest U.S. naval installation outside continental America, from where the giant warships were launched to areas of armed confrontation. Subic used to be home to the U.S. seventh fleet.

"With the Americans gone, Subic is being converted into a trading center, a tourism center, a manufacturing and distributive center for the Asia Pacific. You are seeing a metamorphosis of a Cold War facility into a 21st century type of city," Macaranas said.

The 18 APEC leaders will discuss free and open trade and investments at the leaders hall, formerly the officers club, of Subic's Cubi point naval air station.

The Cubi point naval air station, was the primary land base for the U.S. 7th fleet's carrier striking force. It was from there where P-3 Orion aircraft used to take off and land to fly patrol mission to monitor submarines in the South China Sea and the Indian Ocean.

The APEC leaders will fly to Subic early morning of November 25 from Manila. They will first proceed to their villas before they meet at the leaders hall where Philippine President Fidel Ramos will welcome them at the facility's garden.

After a brief photo session, the leaders will start their discussion of the 1996 Manila Action Plan for APEC (MAPA '96), which integrates the individual and collective action plans of the member economics and their joint activities in economic and technical cooperation.

After lunch, the leaders will go out to the garden again to lower

the time capsule that will contain their individual messages to be opened a quarter of a century hence - in the year 2020.

Filipino entrepreneur Anthony Trillo whose Crown Peak Hotels Group is renovating the leaders hall said the facility will showcase the best and finest of the Philippines.

Its interiors, Trillo said, are being done by designer Budji Layug and the furniture, which will come from Betis, Pampanga, are designed by Cancio Calma and associates. The gardens, he added, will be covered with carabao grass and blooming with morning glory and bouganvillas.

When President Ramos reads their 1996 Subic joint declaration at the leaders hall garden in the afternoon of their meeting, the leaders will be facing the bustling Subic international airport, and at the same time enjoy the refreshing view of Zambales mountain.

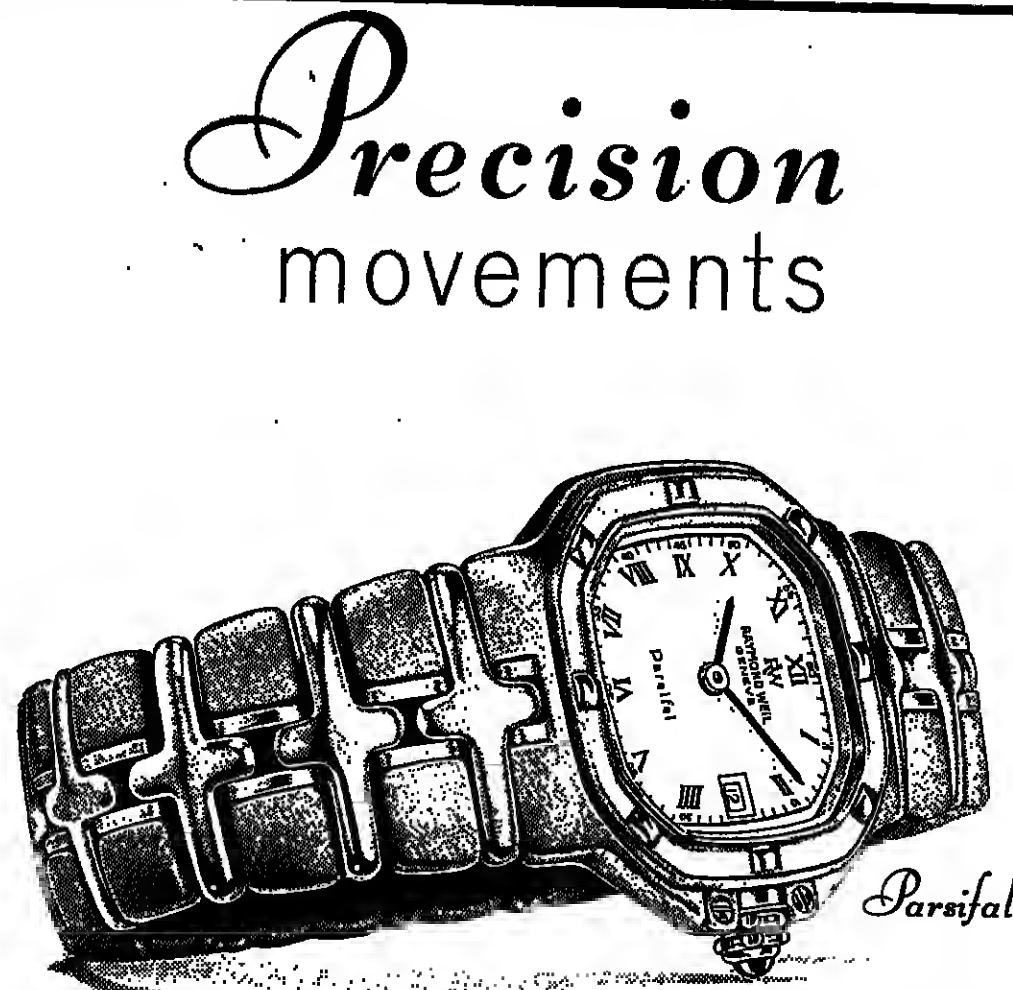
The meeting will be a fitting backdrop as the APEC leaders reaffirm their commitment to a dynamic Asia-Pacific community through open trade and investments, and closer economic and technical cooperation.

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Hazrat Fatimah (SA), Reminiscent of Holy Prophet (S)

Tehran Times Service

Part Two

TEHRAN — In the previous part, it was said that Hazrat Fatimah Zahra (SA) manifested well the qualities of a real Muslim woman. Such characteristics as the following reveal her eminent role in the history of Islam:

1- Hazrat Fatimah (SA) believed that a Muslim woman should take part in the socio-political scene of her society. But at the same time, she should create a comfortable place at home for the members of the family, bring up the children, and provide peace of mind for her husband so that he will be able to confront difficulties facing him outside the home.

Therefore, before her marriage, due to her age that was not yet fit for social activities, she spared no effort at taking care of her father. This is why she was known as 'Omm-e Abiha', meaning 'one who mothers her father'.

After she married Imam Ali (AS), she undertook all household duties and asked her husband to take on responsibilities which had to be handled outside the home. In fact, the husband and wife had called on the Holy Prophet (S) to divide the tasks of life between them, and the prophet had divided the tasks as mentioned above.

Hazrat Fatimah Zahra (SA) had noted, "No one knows how pleased I was with the way my father assigned the duties to us."

The reason why she was so delighted at the way her father had assigned the duties was because she believed that a Muslim woman should deal as little as possible with the men with whom she is not religiously intimate.

Consequently, she spent all her life in running the house, bringing up her four children, spinning wool and weaving, making clothes and dress and darning them, and even pulverizing wheat and making bread.

Nevertheless, Hazrat Fatimah (SA) followed the socio-political issues arising in the society carefully and, when necessary, she entered the social and political scene, playing the role as a prominent personality and doing whatever she

considered necessary.

For instance, following the departure of the Holy Prophet (S), the crucial negotiations that she held with the important political figures on the leadership of the Islamic world and historic speeches that she made on several occasions to the people in Medina and the wise stands that she took at different junctures all serve to demonstrate her political wisdom.

The speeches and negotiations, which are preserved in creditable sources, and her appropriate stands on the crucial issues of her time are praised from a political viewpoint even today although some 1407 years have since passed. Hazrat Fatimah (SA) was also quite learned and knowledgeable about cultural matters and those linked to religious beliefs.

2- Hazrat Fatimah Zahra (SA) was the Holy Prophet's only child who had survived. Also, the Muslims knew well that how much she was loved by the Holy Prophet (S), the leader of the Islamic world. Anybody could easily be prompted into abusing the father's power and influence for worldly gains. But far from doing so, Hazrat Fatimah (SA) lived the life of the poorest. Reject-

ing her many suitors who were all among the wealthy and from the leisured classes and accepting the proposal of marriage made by Imam Ali (AS), who had to sell his armour to meet the cost of the wedding ceremony and buy the necessary household appliances, serves as a token of her virtue and lack of interest in the material world.

3- Hazrat Fatimah Zahra (SA) prayed incessantly to the Almighty God and was also a prominent figure regarding worship. Her standing so long for saying prayer had made her legs swell. While praying she shivered with awe of the Almighty God and wept so hard that her dress got drenched. Hazrat Fatimah (SA) passed many nights reciting the Holy Quran and saying prayer.

Hazrat Fatimah Zahra (SA) passed away on Jamadi-al-Sani 3, AH 10 (Sept. 6, AD 631), some 95 days after the departure of the Holy Prophet (S). Her death was due to the severe injuries that she suffered during the events following her father's departure. With her sad departure, Hazrat Fatimah (SA) made the all the liberal-minded people mournful forever.

She was buried in Medina, Saudi Arabia, but the exact location of her

grave is not known. Due to the unfavorable atmosphere prevalent in Medina, the hub of the Islamic world, Hazrat Fatimah (SA) had decided that only some specific individuals attend her burial ceremony and that the location of her grave remain a secret. Her will, which was agreed to by her husband Imam Ali (AS), was acted upon following her death.

Hazrat Fatimah (SA) gave birth to two sons, Imam Hassan (AS) and Imam Hussein (AS), each of whom ruled the world of Islam for some 10 years before being martyred, and two daughters, Hazrat Zainab (SA) and Hazrat Ummu-Kolloom (SA), who were among the dignified and noble ladies of their time.

"Say: I do not ask of you any reward for it [troubles the Prophet (S) faced in disseminating the Divine Message] but love for my near relatives; ..." The Holy Qoran 42:23

English Idioms & Their Farsi Equivalents

Tehran Times Service

Lesson 20:

English Idiom:

AT THE END OF ONE'S ROPE: at the limits of one's endurance. Mind you controlling your kid? He is driving me crazy. I'm at the end of my rope.

Farsi Equivalent:

* TAAQAT-E KASY TAAQ SHODAN: (word for word meaning: the tolerance of someone; ceiling [or may be odd] ; to become)
* Digar taqatam taq shodeh ast pas kay bar mi garib?!
(I'm at the end of my tether, when are you going to come back?!)

*** **

English Idiom:

AT THE MERCY OF SOMEONE: under the control of someone. Mrs. Farahmand wants Mr. Farahmand at her mercy.

Farsi Equivalent:

* ZIR-E NOFOUZ-E KASY BOUDAN: (word for word meaning: under the hegemony of someone, being); under full control of someone.
* Dar rouzgar-e khosh-e qadim, bach'che ha zir-e nofouz-e valedem boudand!
(In the good old times, the children were at the mercy of their parents!)

*** **

English Idiom:

AT THE OUTSIDE: at the very most. I'll be back in Iran in a fortnight at the outside.

Farsi Equivalent:

* HADD-E AKSAR: (word for word meaning: limit of maximum); at the very most.
* Hadd-e aksar baa dah million dollar karam dorost mi shavad!
(I'll be well-off if I could get \$10 million at the outside!)

Spitzbergen: Rugged Resort for Eccentric Tourists

By Rolf Soderlund

LONGYEAR, Norway — Some may want to idle away their holidays on a beach in France, in a quaint Italian village or cruising a warm, azure sea.

Others of a hardier ilk might plump for Norway's Spitzbergen, a wind-blashed archipelago boasting one of the harshest climates on earth.

There is most decidedly no beach here, but the tourist is free to delight at mighty ice mountains, jagged fjords and hundreds of polar bears that attack without warning.

The arctic territory offers the raw beauty of one of the last untouched wildernesses. Mobile telephones do not work here, so there is no point in bringing that icon of the plugged-in.

"This is a good place for a holiday," said Mike Jenkins, 47, a British telecommunications worker, gazing at the snow-tipped mountains and the frigid icefield.

"It sure looks different from London."

The British capital is 3,000 kilometers from Longyear, an old coalmine town with roads so dirty that signs advise you to take off your shoes on entering shops or public buildings.

It is a bright evening in September, winter has not yet set in and snowscooters are stranded on patches of grass outside the houses of Longyear, 1,306 kilometers from the North Pole.

The sun shines around the clock for four or five summer months on Spitzbergen, which lies 800 kilometers off North

Cape, the northern tip of Norway that is the final destination for most of the few tourists who brave the far north.

The islands were called Spitzbergen for their saw-tooth mountains by Dutch seafarer Willem Barntz in the 16th century. But the Vikings had been to these shores hundreds of years earlier. Icelandic annals show that the Vikings called it Svalbard, or land of the cold coast.

Death can come quickly on Spitzbergen, either by polar bear, icy drowning or by falling into a crevice on a glacier. A Justice Ministry sign at Longyear airport says: "Svalbard is beautiful, but the arctic wilderness can also be dangerous."

"Tourism in Svalbard is subject to special regulations, for instance concerning notice of travel plans and insurance cover. Enjoy your stay, but take care."

Tourists are advised to go on treks under the leadership of a guide partly because the weather changes quickly. Visitors are also advised to rent heavy-caliber rifles because of the polar bears — gun licences are not needed.

"This is a boy's adventure," said Jens Kragaur, 44, a Norwegian tourist. "I have been looking for this experience for 20 years."

Rifles over their shoulders, Kragaur and Jenkins were waiting for a ride out of town with one of Longyear's two taxis.

"If you want to come for the raw beauty of the landscape or go dog-sledging on a glacier in the summer, then this is the place," Jenkins said, grappling with his rucksack. Other treats include

Kayaking and tours of the coal mines.

About 8,000 tourists visited Longyear last year, up 10 percent from 1994. Most stayed in the settlement's three hotels but some went camping, which tourism officials say can be dangerous and is not to be recommended.

Two tourists were killed by polar bears last year, including a Norwegian man who fired several pistol shots at a bear but was mauled to death on an island in eastern Spitzbergen. A Norwegian woman was fatally attacked by a polar bear on a mountain behind the Longyear church.

Polar bears rarely venture into town, but in 1982 one was gunned down by a hunter on the steps of the church.

"For once we had a churchgoer, and he was shot," one villager said.

The church, which can take 100 visitors, is seldom crowded, although Longyear has 1,200 inhabitants.

"The people who go to church on the mainland are not here," Reverend Jan Hoeifelt said. "those who work hard making money are not the most frequent church-goers. We've had 10 to 12 people on a cold winter day and 60 to 70 on a nice summer day."

But the church was full the Sunday after the August 29 crash of a Russian Tu-154 aircraft. It slammed into a mountain near Longyear airport killing all 141 people aboard.

The plane was flying miners to two nearby Russian settlements running coal mines under a 1925 (Cont'd on Pg. 14)

5th Int'l Photo Festival of Children and Young Adults to Be Held in May 1997



Tehran Times Service

TEHRAN — Following its attempts to improve the children and young adults' situation in the art of photography, the 'Iranian Photographers' Center' will hold the 5th Sooreh International Photo

Festival of Children and Young Adults.

The aim of the festival is to draw the world's attention to the children as the future-makers and to develop the photographic culture in our country. The festival

will be in three sections this year. The first and second sections deal with children and young adults photographers. The catalogs of these two sections will be published separately. The third section is considered for the photographers above 17.

SPORTS SUMMARY

(Tehran Times Service)

SOCCER

PARIS: French side Monaco and Dutch Club Feyenoord left themselves large safety margins for their return second-leg UEFA Cup second round clashes in a fortnight's time by going on scoring sprees in Tuesday's away clashes. Two goals from Nigerian striker Victor Ikpeba inspired Monaco to a stunning 4-2 victory over Borussia Moenchengladbach in Germany, while Feyenoord stripped away Espanyol's hopes by leaving Barcelona 3-0 winners.

Other teams to win away were Danish side Brøndby and Spain's Valencia. Brøndby showed up Aberdeen's lack of maturity in European competition by coming away 2-0 winners while Valencia defeated Slavia Prague in the Czech Republic 1-0.

English Premiership pacesetters Newcastle United limited the damage by going down 3-2 away to Hungarians Ferencváros, and Karlsruhe left as Roma a mountain to climb in Italy in two weeks time after hammering a 3-0 win in the home leg.

LONDON: Bolton continued to set the pace at the top of the English first division Tuesday night when they opened up a five-point lead over Norwich City by scoring a 1-0 victory over visiting Tranmere. Scott Sellars scored the Bolton goal in the 51st minute to give the club their sixth win in seven league games. In the English third division, Fulham's Mike Connolly became the country's leading scorer when he took his total to 12 by scoring twice in the leaders' 3-0 victory over visiting Cambridge. And there were more demonstrations by Brighton fans as the home side went down to their fifth consecutive defeat — beaten 1-0 at home by Hereford.

AMSTERDAM: Johan Cruyff, sacked by Spanish Giants Barcelona in May, is favourite to take over from Louis Van Gaal as Ajax Amsterdam coach at the end of the 1996-97 season. Cruyff will be at Wednesday's European Champions' League match with Glasgow Rangers but Ajax President Michael Van Praag denied he had come to discuss a future job. Cruyff was replaced by England's Bobby Robson at Barcelona in May.

STOCKHOLM: Swedish international striker Martin Dahlin has said he is ready to quit Italian Serie A club as Roma. Dahlin, 28, said that as he was not being played by Carlos Bianchi the Roma Manager he saw no alternative but to quit the Italian club. He joined as Roma from German side Borussia Moenchengladbach in the summer for 2.2 million pounds (3.3 million dollars).

LONDON: Aston Villa goalkeeper Mark Bosnich has vowed to cut out the joking on the field after being landed with a football association misconduct charge. Bosnich is in hot water after what he intended as a light-hearted Nazi style salute to Tottenham fans during Saturday's English Premiership game at White Hart Lane backfired.

ISTANBUL: Dutch international defender Ulrich Van Gobbel is to leave Turkish Cup winners Galatasaray. Van Gobbel, 25, was originally in the squad to play cup winners holders Paris Saint Germain on Thursday, but Galatasaray have signed two Romanians Adrian Ilie and Sebastian Filipescu from Steaua Bucharest — who join their international captain George Hagi. Turkish Football authorities stipulate that there can only be three foreign players playing in a team. According to the Turkish Press Van Gobbel, formerly at Feyenoord, is likely to join English Premiership side Southampton, whose manager Graeme Souness left Galatasaray at the end of last season.

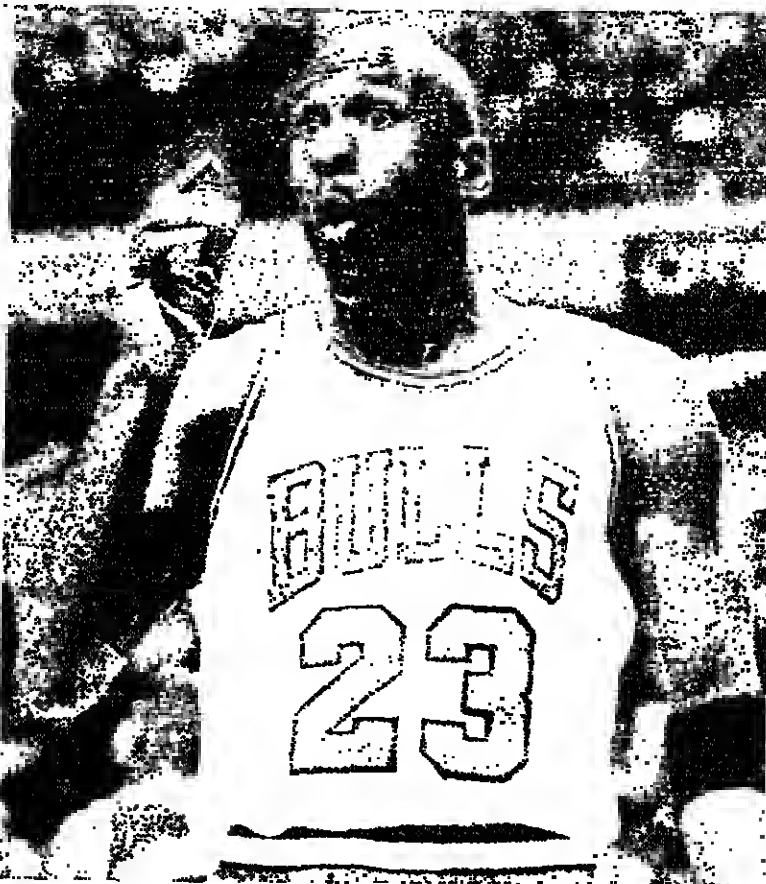
TENNIS

HONG KONG: Austrian Thomas Muster has said he will stop playing Davis Cup if the International Tennis Federation (ITF) did nothing to control unruly crowds. Describing as "nonsense" the referee's report from last month's controversial tie between hosts Brazil and Austria, the world number three said he would be willing to quit Davis Cup Tennis. Muster walked off the court in protest during a doubles match against the Brazilians after claiming some local fans spat, abused him and threw missiles at him. Brazil were awarded the tie and Muster was fined eight thousand dollars by a Davis Cup Panel.

OSTRAVA, Czech Republic: Germany's David Prinosil provided the shock of the day at the ATP's 475,000 dollar event here Tuesday by putting out Wimbledon Champion and fourth seed Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands 6-4, 6-3. Second-seeded South African Wayne Ferreira nearly followed the Dutch player out of the tournament and had to fight hard to see off Italian Davis Cup player Renzo Furlan 7-5, 4-6, 6-3. American Todd Martin and Michael Stich of Germany came safely through their first-round matches.

ZURICH, Switzerland: Swiss teenager Martina Hingis, who won her first senior WTA title at the weekend in Filderstadt, Germany, continued her winning form by crushing Japan's Naoko Sawamatsu 6-0, 6-1 in the first-round of the 926,000 dollar event here on Tuesday. In other matches Jennifer Capriati of the United States defeated Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina 0-6, 6-4, 6-3.

MUNICH, Germany: Carl-Uwe Steeb, who became a national hero in 1988 when he defeated Sweden's Mats Wilander to give Germany its first-ever Davis Cup Title announced on Tuesday he is to retire. Steeb, 29 and winner of three singles titles, has decided to call it a day after suffering a series of recurring injuries.



CHICAGO, IL, United States (October 15): Chael Jordan guards for the Chicago Bulls questions an official's call in the first half of the Bulls first pre-season game against the Milwaukee Bucks at the United Center, in Chicago.

(AP PHOTO)

Monaco and Feyenoord Leave Themselves a Safety Margin

PARIS — French side Monaco and Dutch Club Feyenoord left themselves large safety margins for their return second-leg UEFA Cup second round clashes in a fortnight's time by going on scoring sprees in Tuesday's Wednesday's away clashes.

Two goals from Nigerian striker Victor Ikpeba inspired Monaco to a stunning 4-2 victory over Borussia Moenchengladbach in Germany, while Feyenoord stripped away Espanyol's hopes by coming away from Barcelona 3-0 winners.

Other teams to win away were Danish side Brøndby and Spain's Valencia.

Brøndby showed up Aberdeen's lack of maturity in European competition by coming away 2-0 winners from Scotland after taking their chances.

And Valencia, without their controversial striker Romario who has returned home to Brazil vowing never to play for the Spanish side again after being dropped by manager Luis Aragones, were 1-0 winners in the Czech Republic against Slavia Prague.

English Premiership pacesetters Newcastle United limited the damage by going down 3-2 away to Hungarians Ferencváros and Karlsruhe left as Roma a mountain to climb in Italy in two weeks time after hammering a 3-0 win in the home leg.

Ikpeba, a member of the Nigerian team that won the Olympic Gold Medal in Atlanta, was the inspiration for Monaco whose other goals came from former Celtic midfielder John Collins and teenage sensation Thierry Henry.

Borussia's scorers were Christian Hoolstatter and Swedish international defender Patrik Andersson.

Borussia, who knocked out English Premiership giants Arsenal in the first round, were a little unlucky when Peter Wynnoff had a goal ruled out for offside.

Their manager Bernd Krauss praised the visitors after the match.

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Understanding Kung Fu as Described by a Master

By Ja'far Qasempour Jahangir

What Is Kung Fu?

(Part 10)

Therefore, the segmentation of self-defense philosophy and prohibition of Buddhist entity from perfect physical aspects of kung fu were unavoidable. There were many factors that greatly influenced the separation of philosophy from fighting. Of course, the tyrannical and despotic policies of the emperor's Buddhist government had no pivotal role in this regard. For instance, there is no doubt that both Shaolin Hoonan Temple as well as a similar one in Chiolien Mountains, Fiokeen Province due to the move of 'Burning Temple' dating back to 50 years before toppling Ti-Ang dynasty were temporarily devastated. According to the history, some 4,500 main temples and over 40,000 minor temples were burnt and ravaged by order of the emperor between 840-846 A.D.

It is worth mentioning that most of the temples were home to a number of people. So, the tradition of Buddhism allowed frightened people to prevent the emperor's men from usurping the temples. In this way, the mysteries of Shaolin's arts found their way to the outside world. In addition, the emperor's command which prohibited the military forces from carrying the news and also urged them to conceal the orders of death sentences of the general public, was not practical. To become a master as a principle of arm-free fights in China particularly in harsh times was put on emphasis.

For these reasons, Shaolin's kung fu was based as an influential factor having superiority over China's martial arts a few years before the appearance of Sung Fang internal system. But within one or two centuries, Wio-Tung who believed in Chinese manner, opened his school in the last era of Yuan dynasty leading to deterioration of Shaolin boxing, according to Michael Minik. It was a turning point in the martial arts history which witnessed basic changes leading to revival of the unstable future of Shaolin school of fighting. It is said that at the very beginning of the 16th century a youth from Ming dynasty namely Chooiid-Yuan (Kwak-Yuan) joined Shaolin Hoonan Temple. Chooiid-Yuan was known for his unique ability in bare-handed fighting and fencing. He started completing 18 techniques of Tamu to promote it to the 72 styles of kung fu. He believed, however, he had not reached his ultimate capacity in fighting. This is why he left Chooiid Temple and disguising his face, he launched researches to gather information



China-wide.

The story goes: Chooiid came across an old oarsman in Lanchoo who easily conquered a wild yak which was trying to hurt him. He introduced himself to the old man as a priest from Shaolin and asked the rower, Lee Chee-Yeng, to teach him the principles of his technique. How was it possible for a man of sixty to put two fingers on the feet of his rival thus drop him down on face, senseless?

Lee Chee-Yeng introduced him to Payee Yu-Feng (Pak Yug-Fung), his old friend and a master in kung fu in Shansi region. Payee Yu-Feng, 50, was very kind. He listened to Chooiid Yuan's statements on his tendency to evaluate Shaolin arts beyond the then present styles. Upon a request by Chooiid, Payee, Lee and priest returned to Shaolin Temple.

It was in the said temple that the three men completed 18 techniques of Tamu and 72 arts of Chooiid Yuan. They juxtaposed and transformed them into the main 170 techniques in five styles and named them: tiger, snake, crane, dragon and panther.

تلفن: ۰۲۱-۸۸۸۸۸۸۸۸

مكثان النحريل

Central Asian Countries Express Concern Over Afghan Plight



KARIMOV

(Contd from Pg. 1)



NAZARBAYEV

countries and Russia gathered recently in Almaty to discuss the Afghan crisis.



RAKHMANOV

importance of determining the Caspian Sea's legal regime in strengthening regional cooperation.



VELAYATI

Ashkhabad, the capital of Turkmenistan, whence he will proceed to India on the final leg of his tour.

Egypt Airs Frustration on Al-Khalil After Arafat Briefs Mubarak

CAIRO -- Egypt voiced frustration on Wednesday at the lack of progress in Israeli-Palestinian talks on Al-Khalil after Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat briefed President Hosni Mubarak on the results of the negotiations.

Mubarak also met Jordanian Prime Minister Abdel Karim Kabariti who warned of a "crisis" unless Israel implemented the long-delayed accord for an Israeli troop redeployment in the West Bank town of Al-Khalil.

"President Arafat briefed President Hosni Mubarak on the course of the negotiations and it is clear that the Palestinian side do not see any progress in the negotiations," Egyptian Foreign Minister Amr Musa told reporters.

"What we have seen of the Israeli proposals... makes it difficult to expect an agreement on Hebron (Al-Khalil) in the near future. I am not encouraged. The positions, the

papers and the proposals as explained by President Arafat cannot be feasible or welcomed," Musa said.

In contrast, Israeli Foreign Minister David Levy said Wednesday that "the outstanding differences (on Al-Khalil) can be resolved within hours."

But Musa stressed that Israel should respect the accord which the former Labor government struck with the Palestinians on Al-Khalil and which stipulated that a redeployment should have started in March.

"It is clear that there is an agreement on Hebron and this agreement is the one that should be implemented, not another parallel agreement or any amendments," Musa said.

Kabariti made a similar appeal after meeting Mubarak and delivering a message from Jordan's King Hussein.

"I hope that the Israeli prime minister will not waste time and will be convinced of the need to respect the implementation of the accords. The key word is 'soon,'" Kabariti said.

He also spoke of "differences" in the negotiations and hoped that U.S. mediation will prevail because "without the redeployment in Hebron, I think that we will be having a crisis," he said.

"All of us in Jordan, Egypt and Palestine agree that the accord (on Al-Khalil) should not be taken out of the initial text of the agreement which was previously reached between the two sides," Kabariti said.

He also denied that his country was planning a four-way Palestinian-Israeli-Egyptian-Jordanian summit after an accord was reached on Al-Khalil or that it was persuading Arafat to meet Nctanyahu.

Meanwhile, Palestinian President Yasser Arafat accused Israel on Wednesday of trying to divide the West Bank town of Al-Khalil along "racist" lines but vowed to continue peace negotiations with the Zionist state.

"I want to reveal to you a very dangerous document which we received Wednesday which concerns civil aspects in Hebron," Arafat said at a news conference without specifying who had given it to him.

"It is an alternate document... it is a racist plan which reveals the

ugly Israeli intentions in Hebron and reveals total racism aimed at dividing the city in two: Hebron I and Hebron II," he said.

"We never saw this kind of racism, not even in the apartheid regime of South Africa," Arafat said.

"We are now facing a premeditated action aimed at annulling the agreement signed before," he said in a reference to the autonomy accord inked last year.

"But we will pursue the Taba negotiations," the Palestinian leader added in a reference to Israeli-Palestinian talks set to resume Wednesday at the Red Sea resort.

Arafat was speaking to reporters after discussing the troubled Israeli-Palestinian negotiations with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak and Jordanian Prime Minister Abdel Karim Kabariti, who was also visiting Cairo.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

DAY...

side the United Nations to "reach the ears and eyes of our brothers and sisters all over the world."

In a message published by the Nation of Islam's *Final Call* newspaper, Farrakhan explained that October 16 should be observed "as a day in which we do not go to work or school, do not engage in any sport or play," and should be a day of prayer and fasting.

Farrakhan is to address Wednesday's rally as it winds up around 1900 GMT, following speakers who are to include South Africa's Winnie Mandela, before holding a news conference at the United Nations.

UN officials insist that the black Muslim leader is at the United Nations at the invitation of the UN correspondent's association, and has no official purpose in the building.

Farrakhan said in his published message that his movement had "the greatest of respect" for the Day of Atonement marked by the Jewish community annually.

The small Jewish defense league has vowed to stage counter-demonstrations to protest the four-hour Farrakhan rally.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

EU...

The so-called Helms-Burton Law, part of the U.S. drive to iso-

late President Fidel Castro, provides for sanctions against companies trading with, or investing in Cuba.

The EU claims the law violates the territorial sovereignty of other states.

The act allows for penalties in U.S. courts against any company anywhere which, in doing business in Cuba, benefits indirectly from assets expropriated by the communist authorities there.

The U.S. permanent representative to the WTO, Ambassador Booth Gardner, said: "We don't think that the WTO is the appropriate forum. This is a political issue and not an economic one."

The request for arbitration from the EU is backed formally by Canada and informally by most members of the organization.

The complaint rests on whether or not a member of the WTO is entitled, by national law, to restrict trade by a third country.

WTO procedures permit a period of up to 18 months after arbitration has begun, in this case on November 20, for settlement of a dispute.

Between May 6 and July 6 the EU and United States held two rounds of consultations.

The WTO now finds itself embroiled in its first major dispute.

Cuba has already protested against the law, which was promulgated by U.S. President Bill Clinton, on March 12, arguing that it violated regulations governing world trade.

The act enables plaintiffs in U.S. courts to pursue individuals

or companies benefiting from assets confiscated by the Cuban government since January 1, 1959, and to claim damages and interest.

It also allows for refusal of entry to the United States for any foreigner involved in such trade.

Clinton approved the bill after two small U.S. civil aircraft had been shot down by the Cuban air force.

Cuba has argued that the two planes, which were being flown by exiles from Cuba, were violating Cuban territory and had been involved in activities against the government.

Cuba also recalled that in 1960 it had set up arrangements to compensate people for expropriation or nationalization of assets. Many countries, but not the United States, had availed themselves of this.

Bolivia has already said that the law casts doubt on the credibility of the WTO.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

TALEBAN...

In Kabul acting Information and Culture Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi said "around 5,000 Mujahedees (Islamic warriors) arrived in Kabul yesterday (Tuesday) and more are going to come if need be."

"We enjoy the support of the nation and if there is a need our people are ready to positively respond to our call (to defend Kabul)," the Taliban minister told journalists here.

It was impossible to get an accurate picture of the latest casualties, but ex-government sources said at least 230 Taliban militiamen were killed in the strategic Salang pass when they were surrounded by ex-government forces on Monday. Nine civilians were also reported dead.

Around 35 bodies were visible lying by the side of one road.

The fall of Bagram came on Tuesday, with hundreds of well armed fighters, loyal to Masood, entering the northern end of the sprawling air base in the early morning.

The Taliban militia denied the reports that the airbase had fallen.

Muttaqi told journalists that Bagram Airbase — which is 60 kilometers (35 miles) north of here — was still firmly in the hands of the Taliban, who captured Kabul last month.

Elsewhere the hard-line Taliban did appear to be making ground in their bid to push north from the capital.

In a two-hour operation the Taliban religious militia knocked out two tanks and pushed troops led by Masood some eight to 10 kilometres (five to six miles) back up the northbound highway, witnesses said.

Taliban based in Qarabagh administrative center 40 kilometers (25 miles) north of Kabul launched their operation Wednesday against Masood's troops who were dug in on the northern outskirts of the bazaar.

About 200 heavily armed Taliban backed up by tanks and rocket launchers advanced north from Qarabagh bazaar in face of little resistance and cleared the northbound highway all the way to the turnoff to Bagram Airbase.

Pro-Masood fighters have now been pushed back to positions about 50 kilometers north of Kabul; two days ago these ex-government troops were reported within 10 kilometers (six miles) from the capital.

(AFP)

(Contd from Pg. 1)

UN...

spected by both the people and the government of Tajikistan.

Touching on the negative impacts of regional conflicts on Tajikistan, particularly the recent crisis in Afghanistan, Merrem emphasized that the deplorable continuation of war in Afghanistan has many negative effects on the entire region. "How can one enjoy peace when one's brothers are killed next door?" Merrem wondered.

He reiterated that both the leaders of Tajikistan's central government and the opposition should be wise enough not to allow the Afghan conflict to influence their peace process and should leave no stone unturned to bring about peace and stability in their country.

As for the aims of the Tehran peace talks, Merrem pointed out

that the participants are going to prepare the documents of an agreement to be signed by Tajik President Imomoli Rakhmanov, and the opposition leader Abdullah Nouri in Moscow in the near future.

Tajik peace talks started here on Tuesday with the participation of the representatives of the Tajik government and the opposition, the UN special envoy for Tajik affairs, representatives of monitoring countries.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

TAJIKISTAN...

The Tajik charge d'affaires underlined that the Tajik disputes can be settled only through peaceful negotiations and that it is to the benefit of both sides to come to an agreement and stop slaughtering innocent civilians.

Commenting on the recent crisis in Afghanistan, Nazirov said, "As the Leader of the Islamic Revolution, Ayatollah Seyed Ali Khamenei said, the Taliban militia has come with the aim of misportraying Islam."

He averred that there has not yet been border conflicts between Tajikistan's government forces and the Taliban, but he added, that Taliban actions in Afghanistan would have a negative impact on Tajikistan.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

PEACEFUL...

Taliban's rejection of peaceful negotiations will lead to more bloodshed and fratricide in Afghanistan.

Asked to comment on the Taliban's baseless allegations that Iran militarily supports the Afghan government, Kheir Khah said that, through such allegations, Taliban attempts to distract the world from their atrocities.

He reiterated that Iran has never meddled in Afghanistan's internal affairs, that it has continuously sent humanitarian aid to Afghanistan, and provided shelter to many Afghan refugees in recent years.

He further named the Taliban militia as a serious threat for the entire region, saying that restoration of peace and stability in Afghanistan will certainly have a positive impact on regional countries.

In conclusion, Kheir Khah called on the international community to take firm action against inhumane acts of the Taliban in Afghanistan and restore the rights of innocent people.

(Contd from Pg. 1)

IRAN...

Deputy Foreign Minister Mirza Mahmud Musavi told AFP that "permanent staff," including the charge d'affaires, had remained in the embassy, but "it is possible that a few employees who were not needed may have left Kabul."

IRNA said earlier that Iranian diplomats posted in Kabul had left for Herat, in western Afghanistan, and the northern Afghan city of Mazar-i-Sharif, where Iran has consulates.

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Three Die in V...

Romanian Pensioner Picked Up for Robbing Hitchhikers

BUCHAREST — Police arrested a woman in her 60s for allegedly picking up hitchhikers, giving them drinks laced with sleeping pills and then robbing them.

The suspect, Paulina Ardelean, targeted well-dressed men with briefcases as she drove around the Satu-Mare region of northern Romania.

Ardelean, arrested last week, would offer her victims coffee or fruit juice doctored with sleeping pills and steal their money and other belongings.

She would then find an isolated spot to leave her sleeping victims. (AP)

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Indian Government Under Threat Over Uttar Pradesh Row

NEW DELHI — India's Congress (I) Party threatened to bring down Prime Minister H.D. Deve Gowda's government Wednesday after accusing it of playing into the hands of Hindu nationalists following state elections.

Party President Sitaram Kesri's Britain Set to Outlaw Most Handguns

LONDON — Britain on Wednesday prepared to ban private ownership of most handguns, seven months after a suicidal gunman massacred 16 small children and their teacher in an elementary school in Dunblane, Scotland.

A government ban was to be introduced in the House of Commons later Wednesday would outlaw all handguns except single-shot 22 caliber pistols of the type used in sports competition, and those would have to be held in gun clubs.

No handguns would be allowed in private homes under any circumstances.

The sweeping ban, which was due to be given to Parliament by Home Secretary Michael Howard and Scottish Secretary Michael Forsyth, resulted from crushing political and social pressure from parents of the 16 children of Dunblane, who had mounted a persistent nationwide campaign.

wanting came after the United Front refused to back a congress ally in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh to ensure the hardline Hindu Party did not take power.

Congress wants Deve Gowda to endorse Mayawati, a leader of the Bahujan Samaj Party (BSP, Majority People's Party), as chief minister of the state at the head of a coalition administration.

The United Front's backing would ensure the Hindu Nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP, Indian People's Party), which topped the elections but failed to gain an outright majority, could not take power.

Kesri, whose party props up India's minority coalition government in New Delhi, warned: "If the United Front rejects our proposal to back Mayawati, then the congress will have to reconsider its support." He added the political deadlock in Uttar Pradesh — with the BJP, the United Front and the Congress-BSP alliance all vying for power but unwilling to support each other following the hung elections — and the situation in New Delhi were "related issues." (AP)

Thailand's Capital Hit by Floodwaters

BANGKOK — Floodwaters from the swollen Chao Phraya River joined tidal waters from the Gulf of Thailand to inundate low-lying areas of Bangkok as the nationwide death toll from annual flooding reached 72, officials said Wednesday.

New Kuwaiti Cabinet Sworn In

KUWAIT CITY — The emir of Kuwait on Wednesday swore in a 14-member cabinet which included new oil, defense and interior ministers, official sources said.

The new cabinet was picked by the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah al-Sabah after the previous team resigned following parliamentary elections to the 50-seat National Assembly on October 7.

Sheikh Saad urged the new cabinet to set a "good example" in their ministerial offices after they were sworn in by the emir. Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Sabah, the official Kuwaiti news agency KUNA said.

The cabinet that was announced on Tuesday night includes a new oil minister described by diplomats as a "good and loyal bureaucrat" but not expected to herald a change in policy for this oil-rich Persian Gulf state.

Oil policy is mainly decided by the ruling Al-Sabah family, the diplomats added. (AP)

Burmese Leader Arrives in Cambodia Amid Protest



PHNOM PENH, Kampuchea (Cambodia) (Oct. 16): A soldier stands guard atop a pickup truck as protesters lead by opposition politician Sam Rainsy march through central Phnom Penh. The demonstration was held to protest the state visit by General Than Shwe, the chairman of Burma's ruling State Law and Order Restoration Council. (AP PHOTO)

PHNOM PENH — Burmese military leader Than Shwe arrived in Cambodia Wednesday for a four-day state visit amid protests by supporters of pro-democracy campaigner Aung San Suu Kyi that left two police officers injured.

General Than Shwe, chairman of Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), was welcomed at Pochentong International Airport by King Norodom Sihanouk and his wife, Queen Norodom Monineath Sihanouk.

Up to 4,000 people, including dignitaries and schoolchildren, greeted the general at the airport and thousands more lined the streets as the delegation's motorcade passed, waving flags and pictures of Than Shwe and the king.

Protestors from the officially unrecognized opposition Khmer Nation Party (KNP) who tried to demonstrate as the motorcade passed their office were stopped by police who ripped down their banners.

Barricades erected to keep KNP protestors from the motorcade route

Mother Brings Deadly Gift to Daughter

DAMMAM, Saudi Arabia — A Saudi woman killed her daughter by accident with a viper which smuggled its way across the kingdom down the back of her dress, the official news agency SPA reported Tuesday.

The parents flew from the south of the country to see their daughter and new-born child in the eastern city of Dammam.

The mother complained of "strange movements" down her back during the whole plane journey. Her daughter pulled back the folds of the dress to take a look and screamed as she received a deadly bite from the viper. (AP)

were removed nearly six hours after the delegation arrived.

Security forces earlier fired warning shots in central Phnom Penh to stop a banned protest march by the KNP.

The two police were injured after KNP President Sam Rainsy, leading about two dozen supporters with placards, broke through one of the barricades on foot.

In the ensuing melee, the two

Belgian Justice Minister Moves to Boost Pedophile Inquiry

BRUSSELS — Justice Minister Stefan de Clerck moved Wednesday to calm the uproar which has swept Belgium over the handling of the inquiry into an alleged child-sex scandal pledging to boost the investigations.

As wild-cat strikes and protests erupted across the country for the third day, De Clerck told Parliament that a second examining magistrate was being assigned to the case to help Neufchateau Magistrate Jacques Langlois.

The anger was sparked after the country's highest court decided to remove popular Magistrate Jean-Marc Connerotte from the case when lawyers defending Marc Duroux successfully argued the official had compromised his position by attending a benefit dinner for Duroux's victims.

Duroux has been charged with abducting six girls, four of whom

were injured, one sustaining a broken leg, when they were hit by a KNP car which ran the blockade, according to Mok Chito, the chief of Phnom Penh's criminal police. The other officer suffered an unspecified arm injury.

The driver of the car who was later arrested, along with one of Sam Rainsy's bodyguards, witnesses said was first beaten by police. (AP)

were found dead at his properties, and the murder of an accomplice since his arrest in August.

De Clerck also told Parliament that all the 5,000 videos seized in 350 investigations were being analyzed, denying rumours that some of the stock had been destroyed.

It was the first time that the figure of 5,000 had been mentioned, as previously Neufchateau Prosecutor Michel Bourlot had only spoken about 300 to 400 videos.

The justice minister also denied on Wednesday that he had pressured the families of the alleged victims to drop plans to appeal Monday's ruling against Connerotte by the Cour de Cassation.

"I put no pressure on the relatives so that they would withdraw their opposition to the Cour de Cassation's ruling," De Clerck told the Justice Committee of the Belgian Parliament. (AP)

Swedish Fighter Crashes Near Russian Warship

MOSCOW — A Swedish Air Force jet crashed into the Baltic Sea near a nuclear-powered Russian warship on Wednesday, Russia's ITAR-TASS news agency said.

TASS quoted Russian naval officials as saying the Viggen fighter came down 700 meters (yards) from the atomic cruiser "Pyotr Veliky" some 110 km (70 miles) southeast of the Swedish island of Gotland. The Russian ship immediately began searching for the pilot, who was not seen to eject.

The plane hit the sea at 1147

GMT when the Pyotr Veliky was on its way from St Petersburg to the port of Baltiisk in the western Russian enclave of Kaliningrad, TASS said.

Russian Navy officials said the Viggen flew over the ship and crashed when the pilot lost control of the plane as he tried to make a sharp right-hand turn at low altitude.

The Pyotr Veliky and its support ship, the Pylyk, were still searching for the pilot and would stay on the scene until Swedish ships arrived, TASS said. (Reuters)



ROME, Italy (Oct. 15): Pope John Paul II (L) embraces and kisses Italian Professor Francesco Crucitti (R), the surgeon who operated him, as the Pontiff leaves the "Agostino Gemelli" hospital in Rome. Pope John Paul II was hospitalized here ten days ago for medical checks and an appendix removal. (AP PHOTO)

Arrests in Millionaire Kidnap Case

FRANKFURT, Germany — Three people were arrested Wednesday in connection with the kidnap of wealthy Frankfurt businessman Jakob Fiszmann, in an apparent breakthrough for investigators, informed sources said.

Confirmation of the arrests came from the Frankfurt Prosecutor's Office after police raids which began before dawn on a number of addresses in the region of Frankfurt and Wiesbaden.

The three suspects — including at least one woman — were being questioned and it was not yet known if they would be formally detained.

Searches of addresses in the Rhine-Main region were meanwhile continuing and even being widened, sources close to the investigation said. (AP)

The 40-year-old Jewish multimillionaire was abducted on a Frankfurt street late on the night of October 1 from outside his firm, dragged from his car and bundled into a van.

Police only made his disappearance public Saturday after his family paid a ransom of four million marks (\$2.6 million) Thursday but was not freed the next day, as arranged with the kidnapers.

Police said Wednesday they were assuming Fiszmann was still alive, although the last certain sign of life from him was on October 2, when he indicated he was being held in a cellar.

The missing man's family Monday offered a million marks (\$660,000) reward for information leading to him.

Cambodia Tariff Redu

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia's government announced this month that it would lower import duties on a wide range of goods, including machinery and raw materials, to attract foreign investment and boost economic growth. The move was part of a broader trade liberalization effort aimed at integrating Cambodia into the global market. Officials said the new tariff schedule would take effect immediately. (AP)

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Cambodia Hopeful For Post-MFN Tariff Reductions by End of Year

PHNOM PENH — The Cambodian government, which this month was granted most favored nation (MFN) trading status by the United States, hopes Washington will provide further export tariff reductions by the end of the year, a senior government official said Tuesday.

Status under the "Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) is not unrealistic and it could be happening in less than three months time," Minister of Commerce Cham Prasidh told a gathering of businessmen.

"We cannot be satisfied with just MFN, we are looking for the second stage, GSP," he said, adding GSP status had already been applied for.

MFN reduced tariffs on Cambodian exports to the U.S. to the same level as most other country's exports. GSP further reduces those tariffs and, in some cases, eliminates them.

Because the current level of Cambodian exports to the U.S. is low, analysts have predicted MFN on its own would not do much to increase trade or attract large amounts of foreign investment to Cambodia.

But they have said GSP would encourage many manufacturers to set up shop here to take advantage of the vastly lower tariffs.

Cham Prasidh said three of the main prerequisites for GSP status had already or would soon be met. They include MFN, the passage of a

labor law that meets international standards and an Investment Protection Treaty between the US and Cambodia.

Parliament is expected to pass the labor law shortly after it resumes next week and the investment protection treaty is now being drafted, he said, to applause from the crowd.

But Cham Prasidh warned his ministry and the government would take strict measures to make sure companies did not try to cheat the system by manufacturing goods in non-MFN countries such as Vietnam and shipping them to the U.S. through Cambodia.

Such abuses could result in suspension or revocation of both MFN and GSP, which would be a huge blow to Cambodia's reconstruction after more than 20 years of civil war and strife, he said.

He said an inventory system would be set up, under which inspectors would establish by category the maximum amount of exportable goods. Cambodian companies could produce and then compare those figures to recorded exports.

"That way, if we are exporting more than our companies can produce, we will know someone is cheating," he said.

"And we will not hesitate to close one business to keep 60 others open, black sheep must beware."

he also said warnings would be issued to companies which ex-

ported so much of one good that the U.S. placed quotas on the amount of that product allowed to be imported from Cambodia.

"We will notify people when they get close to that ceiling and tell them to slow down," he said, noting the U.S. imposed quotas when a specific product imported from one country reached 50 percent of total imports of that product.

"But I don't think we will have to worry about that for some time," he said. (AP)

Japan's September Corporate Bankruptcies Down 16.8 Percent On Year

TOKYO — The number of corporate bankruptcies in Japan fell 16.8 percent from a year earlier to 1,114 cases in September, Teikoku Databank Ltd. said Tuesday.

The figure covers failures with liabilities of at least 10 million yen (\$9,600 dollars).

Liabilities involved meanwhile plunged 81.7 percent from a year to 328.9 billion yen, the Credit Research Agency said.

For the six months to September, the number of corporate failures fell 6.3 percent from the same period last year to 7,075 cases, with liabilities involved totaling 2,881.2 billion yen, down 38.5 percent year-on-year. (AP)

French Banker Wins Prestigious Shanghai Award

SHANGHAI — When Henri Hunault won Shanghai's highest merit award for foreign workers, it was not just a personal achievement but also one for French Banks, trailblazers for the country's investment in the city.

Hunault is Executive General Manager of International Bank of Paris and Shanghai (IBPS), a 50:50 joint venture between two heavyweights, Banque Nationale De Paris (BNP) and the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC).

On September 30, he became the first Western banker and only the third foreign banker in Shanghai to receive a Magnolia Merit Award.

"Hunault is someone clever. He has a very good sense of business. He is discreet and he's had a career in Asia," said Jean-Yves Bajon, the French Commercial Counsellor in Shanghai.

Of the 45 foreign bank branches, France has the biggest number after Japan with three fully-owned branches and the joint venture IBPS. Banque Paribas, another French heavyweight, is also close to getting its licence.

Unlike the Japanese Banks who followed their clients, French banks arrived in Shanghai before French industrialists, who remained slow in investing in China. In a highly-protected market

where foreign banks are restricted to doing business only in foreign currency and with foreign and joint-venture clients, French banks have managed to build their assets to third or fourth largest in the city.

This is despite the fact that they cannot count too heavily on French companies to provide them with business because in terms of investment, France ranks between 12th and 15th among foreign investors in China's commercial centre.

French companies have invested only in 80 joint-ventures and fully-owned operations within the Shanghai area, with investment by the five biggest companies amounting to some 300 million dollars.

Lacking a home market, French banks had to do much more than the Japanese banks to survive in Shanghai but Hunault predicted that French investors would follow the avant garde banks.

"Since most of the big French banks have opened here, French investors who are late in coming will be able to rely on us for financial support and advice in setting up their operations."

"If you want to do a good job you have to spend time to understand the market and to be a good adviser to your clients, multi-nationals are very dependent on us," he said.

In China, the job of a banker is particularly difficult because the financial system is still developing and bankers must frequently adjust to policy changes and try to make intelligent guesses as to what is coming next.

Managing a 50:50 joint venture bank is no easy job when the partners were one of France's largest banks and China's biggest Commercial Bank but relations had gone very smoothly between BNP and ICBC, said Bajon.

Hunault, who is into his fourth year with IBPS which he set up in October 1983, said he had to make himself accepted by his Chinese partner and to show them that BNP was willing to bring innovations which ICBC required.

He said the award was a recognition of IBPS's contribution to Shanghai's banking industry. "It is an encouragement for expatriates who have come to work in a difficult environment."

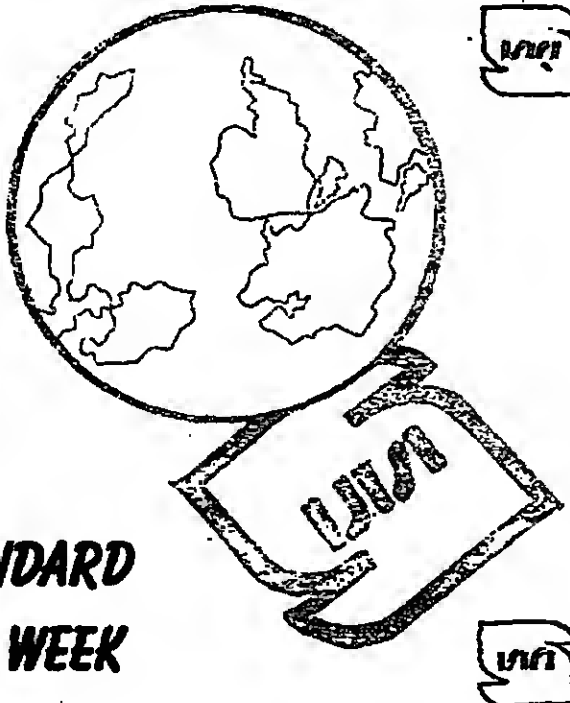
A measure of the success of the mid-ranking IBPS was that in April, it became the first foreign bank to be allowed to open a representative office in the ancient city of Suzhou, which recently became a magnet for foreign investment. (AP)

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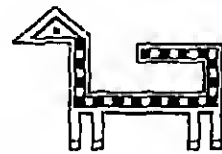
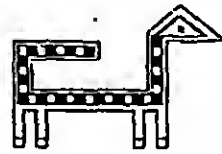
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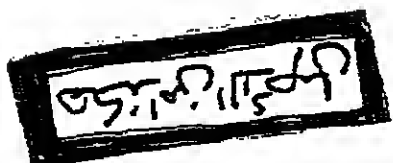
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American Sky Broadcasting May Be Launched by November 1997

ADELAIDE -- News Corp. chairman and chief executive Rupert Murdoch said Tuesday the media conglomerate hopes to launch an American Sky Broadcasting system by November 1 next year.

"We will be launching American Sky Broadcasting ... we hope by November 1 next year," he told the annual general meeting here. "If all goes according to plan, we will be in full launch mode this time next year."

"We have very great hopes for that," he said.

News Corp. has a 40 percent stake in the British satellite broadcaster BSkyB and owns Fox Broadcasting in the United States. Murdoch also said Tuesday that the media group planned to float its digital media services business in the next two weeks.

This would make the company, based in Israel and Britain, more independent from News Corp., he said.

Tower-Builder Honored on New French Note

PARIS -- French engineer Gustave Eiffel, builder of the famous Paris landmark the Eiffel Tower, is to be honored on a new 200 franc note to be issued later this month, officials said Sunday.

The new note, worth just under \$40, will be issued by the Bank of France on October 29, according to the journal *Officiel*, the official government bulletin.

The current 200 franc bill bears a picture of 18th century philosopher the Comte de Montesquieu.

(AFP)

Chronology of Events Since Dutroux Arrest

BRUSSELS -- The removal of examining Magistrate Jean-Marc Connerotte from the case of Marc Dutroux, chief suspect in Belgium's spreading pedophilia scandal, comes amid growing public anger and anguish over the affair.

The following is a chronology of events since Dutroux's arrest.

August

13: Dutroux, his wife Michèle Martin and an associate, Michel Lelievre, are arrested during investigations into the disappearance of two young girls, Sabine Dartheine, 12, and Leticia Delhez, 14.

15: Dutroux's confessions enable police to rescue the two girls, who had been held up at one of his properties at Charleroi.

16: Dutroux, Martin, Lelievre and businessman Jean-Michel Nihoul are charged with abducting and sequestering children.

17: The bodies of two eight-year-old girls, Julie Lejeune and Melissa Russo, who had vanished in June 1995, are found in the garden of Dutroux's main residence.

18: Dutroux and Lelievre admit abducting An Marchal, 17, and Eefje Lambrechts, 19, who had disappeared in August 1995.

22: Justice and public administration ministers are jeered at the funeral of Julie and Melissa. The funeral service triggers a wave of emotion among the Belgian public.

23: The justice minister admits deficiencies in the investigation.

into the disappearance of Julie and Melissa.

25: Three people, including police Inspector Georges Zicot, are arrested for suspected involvement in a stolen car ring said to include Dutroux.

30: The Belgian government says it will reform the judicial system to step up the fight against pedophilia.

September

3: The bodies of An Marchal and Eefje Lambrechts are found in a property owned by Dutroux at Juniet.

4: Prosecutor Michel Bourlet at Neufchâteau denies the involvement of police and magistrates at Charleroi.

4: A former girlfriend of Nihoul, Anne Bouty, is arrested on suspicion of involvement in a pedophilia ring.

10: Police release 23 people, including eight policemen at Charleroi and three gendarmes, who had been held for questioning.

12: Nihoul is charged with abducting Leticia Delhez.

25: Dutroux is charged with the murder of his associate Bernard Weinstein.

27: Zicot and three others are released.

28: An acquaintance of Dutroux says he had named three years earlier that Dutroux preyed on young girls and planned to abduct them.

October



Higher standards on seafarer's working and living conditions and of safety for the world's ships are being prepared by the ILO, through tripartite negotiation. Improvement in working conditions and of work crews, especially on cruise ships, is one of the major preoccupations of the ILO.

(Courtesy World of Work)

Builders Bullish on Malls, but Will Shoppers Come?

"Budapest could support five such malls. People will be coming from all over the country, and even from abroad."

BUDAPEST, Hungary -- With more than 100 stores, nine movie screens, one skating rink, fast-food restaurants and supervised child care, Duna Plaza is bringing a typical Western shopping experience to a post-communist setting.

The first of its kind in Budapest, it opens in a city where people struggled for years with the surly service and limited offerings of state-owned shops.

Most consumers are still trying to make ends meet, and many wonder whether they can afford

the luxury of mall shopping. But entrepreneurs have bet millions that the post-communist downturn is bottoming out.

What's more, they argue, malls will be a magnet because they're more than just a place to shop: they represent a Western lifestyle people envied in the lean communist years. Three more malls are to open in the Budapest area within a year.

"Budapest could support five such malls," said Miklos Kozma, chief of Translektro, a giant Hungarian import-export firm that is a

major investor in the 8.3 billion forint (\$55 million) mall named after the Danube River that courses through the Hungarian capital. "People will be coming from all over the country, and even from abroad."

Not so many years ago, most traffic went the other way. After communism collapsed, Hungarians and other Central Europeans crammed into tiny sedans and headed across the border to countries like Austria for shopping. They make fewer trips now that markets have opened and consumer goods have flooded their countries.

Some Hungarians have struck gold in the transition to capitalism. But retail trade dropped by 6 percent in the first five months of this year. The average monthly wage is less than 50,000 forints (\$330), rent on a one-person apartment

"The future belongs to the youth. Those in their teens and twenties today, who will be tomorrow's wage earners, will prefer this lifestyle."

starts at about 20,000 forints (\$130), a pair of men's shoes cost 4,000 to 18,000 forints (\$25 to \$120), and a kilogram (2.2 lbs) of bread costs 80 forints (40 cents).

The all-glass Duna Plaza, built in an old north-side industrial neighborhood, is advertising itself as a place to shop and have fun. Up to 1,800 people can watch films. McDonald's will be there, as will a fast-food Chinese restaurant.

An underground passage connects it to the Budapest Metro, and it tempts shoppers with Western stores like Britain's Marks and Spencer -- where a black skirt displayed in the window cost 30,000 forints (\$200).

Even though she and her engineer husband earn about twice the national average, such prices are too steep, said Maria Toth, a 47-year-old office clerk and mother of two teenage sons.

"We certainly won't be shopping there," she said as she passed by. Rent and utilities eat up half the family's income, and the rest goes for other essentials, she said.

"These malls are for people who don't need to check the price tags."

14: Connerotte is taken off the case, but the application to have Bourlet removed is turned down. The pedophilia hotline is jammed with calls from the public.

(AFP)

Dinosaur Footprints Stolen in Australia

PERTH, Australia -- Dinosaur footprints estimated to be 130 million years old have been stolen from a site near the pearling port of Broome, in western Australia's Far North, the Western Australian Museum said recently.

The museum's senior paleontologist, Ken Macnamara, said it appeared thieves had used power tools to hack the footprints off hard rock.

The footprints, of a stegosaurus, were found in 1990 in what was once a big river valley. Stegosaurus, which lived between 150 million and 135 million years ago, had a double row of large triangular plates along its back.

Macnamara said the footprints were vitally important because they were the only evidence Stegosaurus had lived in Australia. "The prints have worldwide significance because they are ex-

tremely rare and appear at only a few sites," he said.

Macnamara said there was a big world market for fossils.

Site custodian Joseph Roe said the footprints had great spiritual significance to local aborigines.

"According to aboriginal tradition, whoever has taken them has placed themselves in great danger," he said.

The area was registered as an aboriginal sacred site in 1989, and is the subject of a native title claim.

Macnamara said no extensive research had been done on the footprints.

"You simply do not expect that critical fossils like that are going to be removed," he said.

(AFP)

Former Indian Minister's Dream Holiday Home Seized

NEW DELHI -- Indian detectives have seized a dream holiday home built by a former minister who faces charges of bribing four parliamentarians three years ago, a newspaper reported Monday.

The Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) sealed the imposing cottage, belonging to former Petroleum Minister Satish Sharma, at Kaplani village close to the northern hill resort of Mussoorie, the *Pioneer* said.

The house, with a nearby helipad, was constructed between 1993 and 1995 and registered in the name of Sharma's wife, Sterre.

The *Pioneer* did not say why the cottage was sealed, but added that the federal CBI would soon charge Sharma with acquiring assets disproportionate to his income.

Sharma, now visiting the Czech Republic, could not be reached for comment. A former airline pilot who took to politics at the request of former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, he is facing investigation for allegedly bribing the four opposition MPs who have since been arrested.

The MPs allegedly voted in support of former Premier P.V. Narasimha Rao's minority government during a crucial parliamentary vote in 1993. The four have denied the charge.

Sharma is a member of Rao's Congress (I) Party. The Supreme Court had last month charged him with giving franchises for 15 petrol stations to friends in violation of government rules when he was the minister.

The Congress was voted out in the April-May general elections.

(AFP)

Government Wins Guarantees on World Service

LONDON -- The British government has won assurances from the BBC that it would preserve its World Service News Division as a distinct entity within the organization, a status under threat from a restructuring plan.

A report published recently by a joint Foreign Office-BBC working group ruled out earlier plans to merge the two news services, de-

ciding to maintain the English and foreign language World Service as a distinct unit.

The proposal to merge the two news services was a central plank of BBC Director General John Birt's plans to overhaul the Corporation's International News.

The joint working group was set up in July amid fears that the service's impartiality and quality could be at risk, and after Foreign Secretary Malcolm Rifkind expressed anger that his ministry had not been consulted on the Birt plan.

(AFP)

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Why You Need a Flu Shot

PART 2

Can I get a reaction from the vaccine?

It is biologically impossible to get the flu from the vaccine because the viruses in the vaccine are dead and thereby incapable of invading and reproducing in your cells. All they can do is rev up your body's immune system and prompt it to produce antibodies to knock out the live flu viruses.

Occasionally, this revving-up may produce a flu-like reaction. But that means you're probably hypersensitive to a vaccine component.

If you were unprotected and contracted the flu from a live virus, you would undoubtedly become very sick. It's much better to have a brief flu-like vaccine reaction than full-blown flu.

Unlike colds, which can plague year-round, flu is decidedly a winter phenomenon. The flu season typically begins in November or December and tapers off by March or April.

Schedule your vaccination between October 15 and November 15. Waiting until the flu hits your community is not a good idea because it usually takes about two weeks after you've received the vaccine for your body to build up immunity to the virus. Still, if an outbreak is already under way, public health officials advise that high-risk individuals who missed the shot get it anyway.

What else can I do to avoid the flu?

If you are among those who didn't get the shot before the flu

hit your community or who shouldn't be immunized, you can take either of two antiviral drugs: amantadine hydrochloride or rimantadine hydrochloride. Both prevent infection from type-A flu only.

The prescription medications, which keep the virus from multiplying in the body, are about 70 to 90 percent effective. However, they must be taken within 48 hours of illness onset, and then daily for the duration of flu activity in the community. Unlike the vaccine, they have no lasting effect. In addition to their preventive value, the drugs may shorten the course of a type-A flu attack among those who should have been vaccinated but weren't.

Do the drugs have side effects?

Some but they occur more frequently in people over 65. Typical reactions from amantadine and rimantadine involve the central nervous system, and can include nervousness, anxiety, difficulty concentrating and lightheadedness. There may also be gastrointestinal side effects, such as nausea and diminished appetite. Fortunately these are usually mild and can diminish or disappear while you're still taking the medication.

Having the FLU is no fun, and chances are you can't afford to be laid low for a week or more and debilitated for weeks longer. You'd be wise, then, to get the vaccine this year—and every year. (Courtesy of Readers Digest, October 1996.)

The Secret Ingredients of Brain Power

Research is getting ever closer to uncovering the brain's greatest secrets - how we learn and remember, how we think, who we are. Now a series of tests and scans is upending all the old theories.

The man of the 21st century may have memory chips in his head, take intelligence-enhancing drugs and know who he really is. But none of that sci-fi technology can take place without a better understanding of how our brains work. Or, more to the point, where the work is actually done.

So, is it possible to find out which lumps of grey matter are responsible for genius, creativity, memory, learning, timekeeping and other essentials of thought and sense?

In fact it is probably easier to map the moon than the human brain - although for a century, psychologists have done their best to fit regions of the brain to various functions.

Some predictions have stood the test of time. For example, we know pretty well how the sensory and motor cortex on the surface of the brain control how we feel and move. But argument rages over which bits control functions like thought, learning, memory and creativity. One thing's for sure: the brain is far more complex than we thought - and a lot of our assumptions will be wrong.

Two revolutionary new approaches have made dramatic advances possible. First is positron emission tomography (PET) scanning, which gives us a window on to the living brain. By injecting

a short-lived radioactive substance and tracking its fate in the brain, scientists can see which regions are active when certain tasks are performed. Second is the increasing focus on neurotransmitters, the chemical messengers between brain cells and what happens.

Memory: The Power Inside

THESE TWO approaches are being applied to the study of memory - mental illness, perception-even consciousness - to produce intriguing insights into the way we think.

First, if we could understand how the brain remembers, we'd a long way towards understanding how we learn. And how well we learn makes a vital difference to the store of knowledge we carry around with us. Enhanced-learning drugs - chemicals that improve the memory - are the dream of virtually every major pharmaceutical company.

Research into how the brain deals with short and long-term memory may hold the key to producing the drug that turns bimbo into boffin.

For over 20 years, memory experts have pinned their hopes on a process called long-term potentiation (LTP) to explain how memories are stored in the brain. In LTP, connections between neurons in the hippocampus - a

part of the brain known to be involved in learning and memory are strengthened and become more sensitive to stimulation. The link with memory came when experiments showed how rats dosed with drugs that block LTP forget things they have previously learned.

Since then, psychologists have been trying to firm up the LTP-memory connection, but all they've discovered is that the whole subject is more involved than they thought.

Recent experiments have cast doubt on the link between LTP and memory, and reinforced the complexity of systems involved in learning, according to Steven Rose of the Open University. "For example, it's known that blocking LTP with drugs prevents rats from first learning their way round a maze. But once they've learned one, it does not stop them from learning a different one."

Professor Rose, who has worked in memory research for more than 20 years, thinks the way forward must be to look for the molecules that play crucial roles converting short-term memories into long-term memories.

In Rose's lab, day-old chicks learn to avoid pecking at beads coated with a bitter-tasting substance. They are offered the bitter bead, taste it, and store the experience in short-term memory. If the memory and learning processes are intact, the information gets transferred into long-term memory, so that when the bird comes across the bead again, it doesn't peck it.

Thought

I was said to Jesus (AS) Teach us a deed for which Allah will love us. He said: Detest the world and Allah will love you. (Bahar, Vol. 14, P. 226)

PRAYER

Noon.....11:50
Evening.....17:46
Dawn (tomorrow).....4:42
Sunrise (tomorrow).....6:14

Another 3 Charged in Japanese AIDS Scandal

TOKYO — Japanese public prosecutors Wednesday charged three former presidents of pharmaceutical company Green Cross Corp. with professional negligence resulting in death, news reports said.

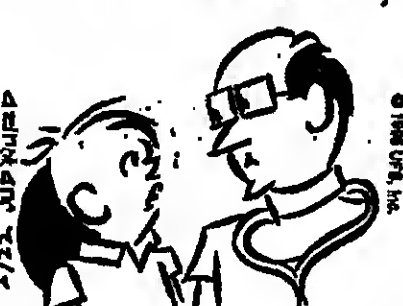
All three are suspected of being responsible for last year's death of a man who contracted the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) from unheated blood products sold by Green Cross after 1985, when safer products were introduced.

The indictments against Takekazu Kawano, Renzo Matsushita and Tadakazu Suyama, came less than a week after prosecutors arrested former health and welfare ministry official Akihito Matsumura.

Kawano, 66, resigned as president of the Osaka-based company on September 26, a week after he was arrested with Matsushita, 75, and Suyama, 68. (AP)

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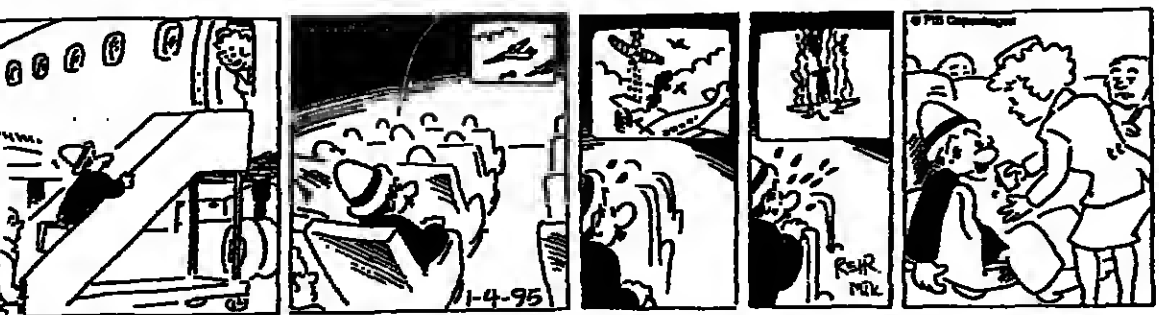
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Bizarro by Dan Piraro



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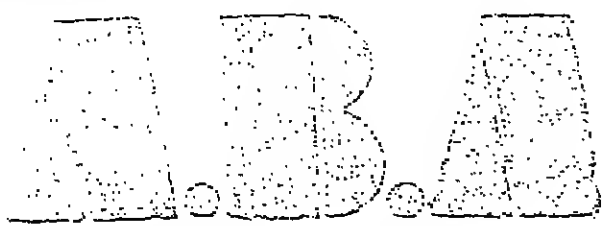


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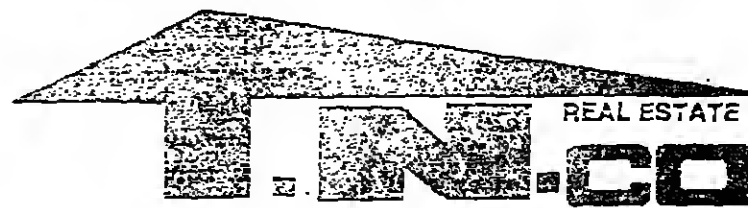
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TENDER NO. 1375.3.8

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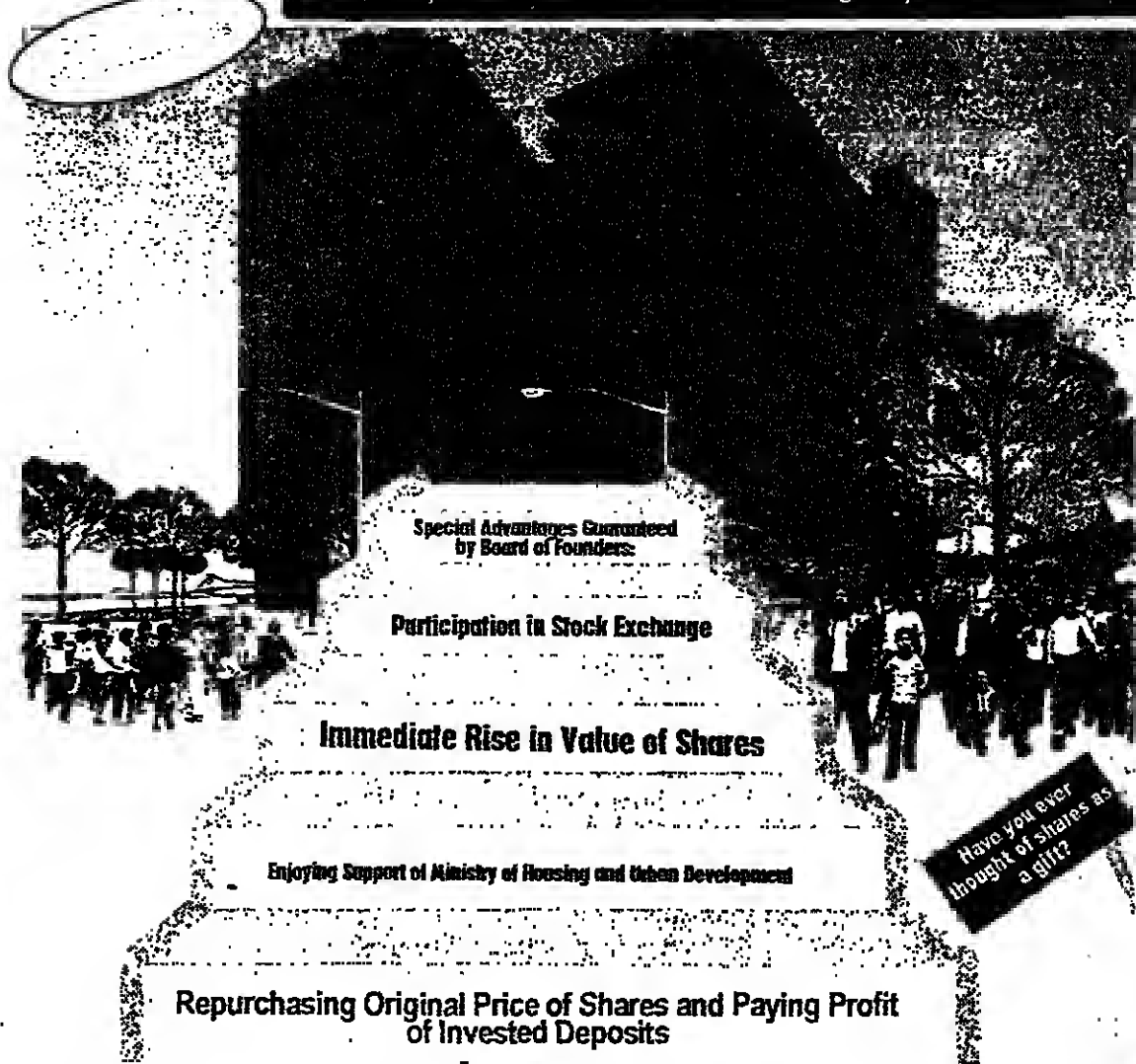
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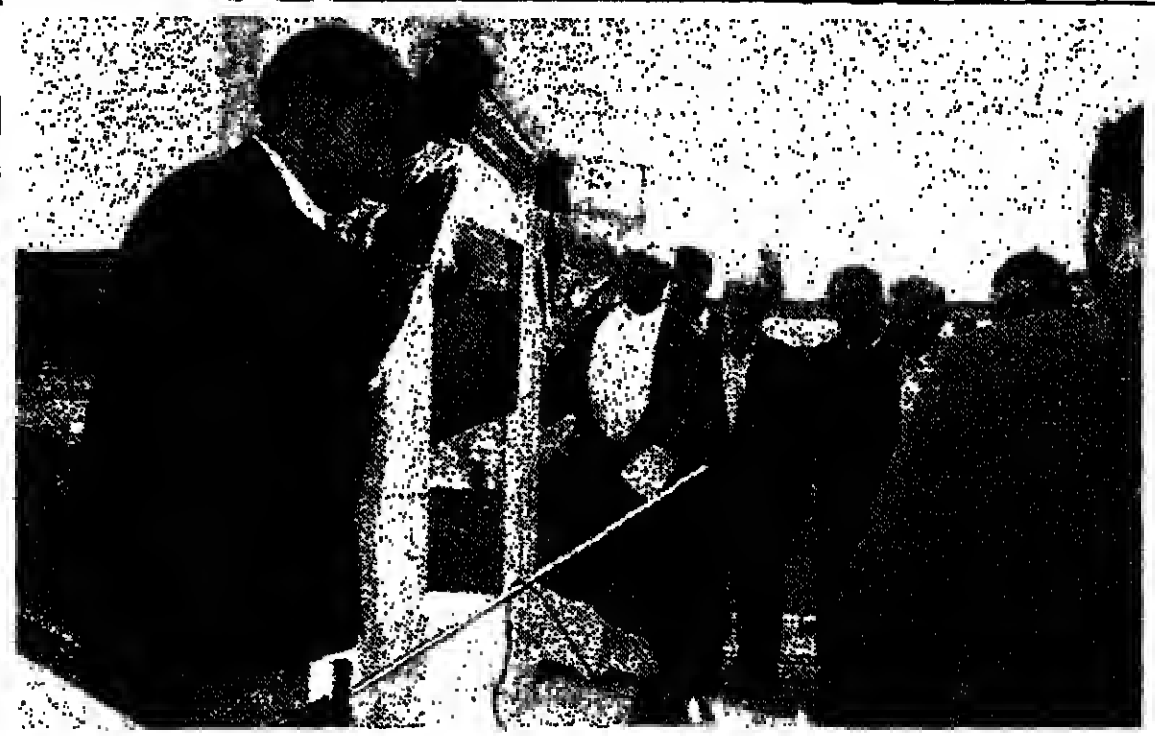
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President Hashemi Rafsanjani inaugurates Takestan Vocational and Technical Training Center.

During the recent visit by flag bearer of construction, President Hashemi Rafsanjani to Zanjan Province, many projects were inaugurated by His Excellency in different cities of the province.

Engineer Abbas Taqipour, deputy minister of labor and social affairs and head of State Organization for Vocational and Technical Training gave the *Tehran Times* further details on the visit:

Many thanks to the Beneficent God who has bestowed on us the visit by great flag bearer of construction, grand man of Islamic republic history, and epitome of piety. President Hashemi Rafsanjani. Let us applaud him for all he has done and wish him a long and blessing life.

In conformity with the objectives of the Islamic constitution on

creating employment opportunities, promotion of technical awareness of the laborers, the State Organization for Vocational and Technical Training is training manpower needed in different technical and industrial centers of the country.

Engineer Taqipour outlined the responsibilities of the organization as: training laborers for the industrial and labor markets, promotion of the employees' technical awareness, evaluation of the employees' scientific, technical and specialized capabilities for improving the quality of training in tandem with the state-of-the-art technology and according to international standards.

He added: Due to the nature of the region and present industries, vocational and technical training centers can play well their role in

training manpower for industry, services and agricultural sectors in the region thus help develop the township and the region, eradicate unemployment, create employment opportunities, qualitative and quantitative promotion of production, and economic, social, and cultural development.

Referring to Takestan Vocational and Technical Training Center, Engineer Taqipour said the center is constructed in a land area of 15,000 sq.m and a built area of 3,360 sq.m which consists of 6 workshops, central warehouse, engine room, administration building, training building, and state-owned residential blocks. The center will provide the trainees with 8 courses on turnery, steelworks, indoor electricity, industrial power, electronics, welding, gas piping and

Flag Bearer of Construction Inaugurates Takestan, Abhar and Khorram-Darreh Vocational and Technical Training Centers

automechanics.

Takestan center, will be active with a capacity of 400 seats per year in two shifts of morning and afternoon.

The head of State Organization for Vocational and Technical Training also referred to Abhar Shahid Chahvan and Khorram-Darreh vocational and technical training centers and said they will offer services for the trainees on a land area of 18,000 sq.m and built area of 4232 sq.m with a total investment of 3 billion rials. These centers

include courses on electronics, industrial power, indoor electricity, automechanics, repairing agricultural machinery, welding, gas piping, thermo installations, sanitary piping with a capacity of 400 seats.

Mr. Mahbod Rad director general of Zanjan Vocational and Technical Training Center said the president's visit to different cities of the province was an overture for the construction and development ends in the province.

He expressed his gratitude to-

ward Minister of Labor and Social Affairs Mr. Kamali, Engineer Taqipour head of State Organization for Vocational and Technical Training, Veli-e Faqih representative and Friday prayer of Zanjan Ayatollah Mousavi, Zanjan Governor General Engineer Kazemi, along with Majlis (Parliament) members all who helped responsible authorities to equip and implement vocational and technical training centers in Takestan, Abhar, and Khorram-Darreh.



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Banks Key to Wealth for China Computer Firm

KUNMING, China — The birth in 1970 of what would become one of China's top computer firms could hardly have been less auspicious.

Communist cultural revolutionaries roamed the land, schools and universities were in ferment and the computing breakthroughs of the West were

Communist cultural revolutionaries roamed the land, schools and universities were in ferment and the computing breakthroughs of the West were locked far away on the other side of China's ideologically-sealed borders.

locked far away on the other side of China's ideologically-sealed borders.

But for the Nantian Electronic Information Group Corp. the accidental timing of its birth was as much an opportunity as a stumbling block, senior company officials say.

The group, then known as the Yunnan Electronic Equipment Factory, was cradled in the white heat of the late chairman Mao Zedong's ultra-leftist 1966-1976 cultural revolution but found its fortune in the economic reforms that followed Mao's death.

Nantian now makes healthy profits supplying computer systems to state banks struggling to adapt to the booming market economy built by Mao's successors, said group president Zheng Zhigang.

"Nantian's development has been pretty fast," Zheng said in an interview at Nantian's head office in Kunming City, capital of southwestern China's Yunnan

Province.

Profits in 1995 hit 42.07 million yuan (\$5.07 million) on sales that had soared to 927 million yuan from 510 million the year before and from just 100 million yuan in 1990, he said.

Nantian hoped to boost revenues to 1.2 billion yuan in 1996, he said.

crediting nimble market footwork and early international cooperation for paving the group's road to national success from a remote frontier province.

"We needed something special to succeed from Kunming," he said. "In 1974 we started to make computers... even though that was the time of the Cultural Revolution

"We already have 10 years of history with the banks," said Zheng. "We feel that bank computerization has just started."

and China was fairly chaotic, we still felt (computers) were important."

Nantian began building contacts abroad in 1978, just two years after Mao's death and in the earliest days of China's opening to the outside world.

The experience helped to inform a crucial choice in the mid-1980s, when the firm decided to narrow its market focus.

"In 1985, we used our expertise to analyze the Chinese market... and we chose banks," Zheng said. "We chose an excellent market target."

Computerization had become essential for China's state banks, which for decades had had little need to hustle for business and were still ill-equipped to supply the financial needs of the new market economy.

It was also a market sector in which little competition existed and where there was a strong demand for computer solutions that would match foreign technology with local knowledge, Zheng said.

Nantian had established cooperation with Italian technology group Olivetti and Unisys Corp of the United States in the 1980s, and in 1993 started working with U.S. computer firm Hewlett Packard Co., he said.

"We have a joint venture with silicon graphics to sell and service

their graphic workstation in China," he said.

A vital ingredient in Nantian's growth recipe was the company's ability to focus tightly on its chosen market sector.

"Our main market is state banks and other national financial institutions," said Zheng.

"We develop the software with our partners. For the hardware we

integrate different companies' equipment with our own for a total solution," said special project manager Chen Deying.

Nantian had established a firm presence in the capital Beijing and in China's financial hot spots of Shanghai, southern Guangzhou and booming Shenzhen near the border with Hong Kong, company officials said.

Dozens of joint-venture subsidiaries in major cities gave Nantian a local presence in its key markets, but the state-owned group remained headquartered in scenic Kunming, they said.

Comprehensive support to ease the difficult transition from pen-pushing to terminal-tapping was essential in the financial world, where customers could become hugely reliant on their new technology, Zheng said.

"We established a support system for computerization," he said. "This is very important for banks, which need good after-sales service."

Nantian was reported to be keen to issue shares on the Hong Kong Stock Exchange as early as 1994, but Zheng said the group still had no firm plans and said subsidiaries

could float first.

"We have considered (listing) and made some preparations. We will need investment to develop," he said. "We don't have a fixed plan, we will analyze our subsidiaries and choose some of the better ones to consider listing."

No matter how the group found the funding it needed, it planned to remain firmly in the market niche carved in the nation's banking system, company officials said.

"We already have 10 years of history with the banks," said Zheng. "We feel that bank computerization has just started."



GIBRALTAR, United Kingdom (October 14): Firemen hose down the blazing tanker brunito docked in Gibraltar. The ship's first engineer David Nicholas was killed in the fire, three other crew members were injured.

(AFP PHOTO)

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Internationalism versus Globalization

While internationalism would celebrate the achievements, struggles and creativity of the poor, and the equal rights of all peoples of the world to develop in dignity, sufficiency and security, globalization and global capitalism requires the humiliation of hundreds of millions of people and keeping them in constant insecurity, pitting them against one another in a competitive struggle for survival.

We are all globalizers now. The insistence on globalization has eclipsed and usurped internationalism; indeed sometimes masquerades as if it were the same thing. It is time to rescue what internationalists have always worked for from the clutches of a rapaciously expansive and ultimately, colonizing, globalization.

We hear the arguments daily from the holders of power, the very fatalism with which they speak about the inevitability, the irreversibility of globalization, suggests they more and more desperate: We must compete in an increasingly integrated world. We must educate and train our people for the challenge of the 21st century. We have to take on the Asian tigers and beat them at their own game.

(Of course, it was our game originally, which is why we find it so disconcerting when they beat us. What's more, it isn't a game; it's deadly serious, particularly for the losers, the people of those countries prematurely used up by work and want, and whose children are dying daily from avoidable sickness and malnutrition.)

Globalization then, means the absorption of all the countries of the world into a single economic entity: A bleak vision of a choiceless future, in which 'choice' nevertheless figures so prominently.

Internationalists spoke of other forms of integration, more harmonious, less violent, more just, long before the apostles of globalization began promoting their lurid vision of a whole world refashioned in the image of the universal market-place, from every platform, at every conference, at every international gathering, in every transnational meeting-place on earth. That other version of integration required only that the powerless unite, that the disadvantaged combine in order to resist and make common cause against what William Morris 100 years ago referred to as 'the iron rule of the world-market'.

The fading of that internationalism is the distant, and perhaps most disastrous, consequence of the death of the Soviet Union. It is not the loss of the ideology of communism that has canceled hope for the poor; it is rather the absence of any check upon the florid and aggressive necessities of unchecked capitalism. Whenever poverty and inequality are 'rediscovered' by the media, this is no longer accompanied by a sense of moral outrage. These are now simply facts of life.

Much of the internationalism which animated the early labor movement has now declined into a desultory and ritualistic exchange of fraternal greetings on special occasions; organized labor having been, for the main part, enlisted in the grisly crusade of 'integrating' unequal partners into an interdependent world. For interdependence between unequals means the

a providential distribution of human destinies. They don't put it quite like this. They invoke economic realities, the necessities of the market, as though these things were aspects of universal natural laws. 'The market is our master,' proclaims Michael Heseltine. In a more spiritual age, this would have been called idolatry.

It is now considered both improper and unthinkable that anyone should try to stand in the way

of the global economy, as it rolls over the world, crushing ancient patterns of living, destroying benign symbiosis between resource base and humanity, breaking modest ways of answering need, evicting people from forests, subsistence agriculture, forcing them from the security of traditional settlements, and sweeping them up in vast involuntary migrations to a single destination — the stifling, loveless embrace of the universal market.



And how is that growth and expansion to be assured? Why, as it always has been: By the exploitation of primary commodities and the resources of others, by control of trade, by the exploitation of workers on plantations, in agribusiness and on industrial estates, in the spreading sweatshops of the cities, in the informal workshops, forges and factories in the towns and cities of the South. Only this way can the rich countries remain rich enough to keep their fractious and insecure peoples from turning against marginalized and threatened minorities.

In other words, the official detestation of racism at home can be given practical shape only by practicing it more and more intensively abroad. This is how the age of imperialism has survived all the liberation movements and the struggles for freedom from colonialism. Organized, institutionalized hypocrisy has woven an elaborate fabric of concealment to shroud the real relationships between North and South; any discussion of which is rigidly excluded from mainstream political discussion in the West. This is why we, in the popular imagination, figure primarily as givers of aid, as rescuers, as deliverers, as bestowers of assistance, instruction and wisdom to a poor, suffering, wretched Third World.

The distaste for racism in the West is merely another luxury of privilege, paid for by turning over lands of Brazil to vast agribusiness enclosures, and sending the people to squat in the violent suburbs of Nova Iguaçu in Rio and the favelas of São Paulo; by the million or more young women who have entered the garments industry, where they receive less than \$1 for a 14-

hour day for the privilege of providing us with the amenity of cheap clothing; by the continued transfer of produce and treasures of most of the countries of Africa at knock-down prices to their former political masters. Racism abroad to serve a nonracial society at home: what a formidable, cunningly wrought construct it is.

In the first half of July 1996, India, for instance, figured in the so-called quality press and televi-

sion of Britain, not because of the energy, endurance and heroism of its poor in their efforts to survive, but because there was a stamped at a Hindu shrine in Madhya Pradesh, because India will have the largest number of people with HIV in the world within the next five years, because there was another atrocity against low-caste laborers in Bihar, because of government corruption and the usual floods and excesses of nature which come with every monsoon. The relationships in a globalized world are the object of rigorous and tightly-controlled misrepresentation. It is the work of internationalists to unmask this, to celebrate the achievements, the struggles and the creativity of the poor, to recognize our common humanity and the equal rights of all peoples of the world to develop in dignity, sufficiency and security.



placelands of desperate and terrified Bangladeshi peasants must be transferred to Laos to build a luxury hotel, where thousands of country-women from Indonesia are air-borne to Saudi Arabia as virtual captive domestic labor, where young girls from Yunnan in South China are trafficked to the brothels of Bangkok for the amusement of gilded migrants from the West on vacations and six-tours.

It requires that the people of the world should aspire to more and not to sufficiency, because this alone will feed the engines of perpetual economic expansionism. It requires that people remain prey to constant insecurity, because this is guaranteed to set them against one another in an ever fiercer competitive struggle to survive.

Globalization is inherently unstable and violent; and that even before it starts to strike against the limits of the earth's resource base. The most urgent task is to retrieve internationalism from globalization — this caricature and distortion of a coming together of global humanity. Globalization presses a whole planet into the service of a system that has long since outlived its usefulness in serving us, and indeed, frequently no longer even pretends to do so; autonomous, triumphant, while we anxiously await news of the health of the economy, the weakness or vitality of markets recovering from a bout of nerves or a spectacular fall, their buoyancy or depression, as though the market were a perpetually ailing monarch, whose well-being is of paramount concern to his subjects; while all around us, the people perish.

And not only in the poor countries. The UN Human Development Index states that Canada and the USA occupy the first two places in the world. If the USA is presented as the goal and summit of human achievement, with its 20,000 annual shotgun murders, its million prisoners in jail, its 28 million recorded crimes, its addicted, obsessive and isolated humanity, as one person in three lives alone, as well as its prodigality and waste, its loss of cohesion and community, its extremist individualism, and pathological inability to understand all the things that people can and must do together if the world is not to perish — well, if the USA is the object of universal aspiration, then we have lost even the capacity to formulate a vision of what a decent society might look like.

Disengagement, self-reliance, a celebration of the local and of our capacity to answer our needs for ourselves and each other; breaking the dependency — not on welfare, but on a global market — so that our daily bread no longer comes courtesy of transnational conglomerates, and we are not compelled to drink value-added chemicalized beverages because there is no safe drinking water. The satisfaction of all our needs has been enclosed and held captive, precisely by those 'globalized' monopolistic interests which promote themselves as representing free markets. We are then bidden to bless our unfreedoms as the highest liberty.

The language of internationalism has been plundered and distorted for alien purposes. The meaning of words has also been polluted, contaminated by the ef-

(Contd on Pg. 15)

بازار آزاد

Opposition Party to Protest Against SLORC Chief Visit Despite Ban

PHNOM PENH — Cambodia's most prominent dissident vowed Tuesday to defy a government order prohibiting a protest march against a state visit by the leader of Burma's ruling junta.

"We are going to use our constitutional right to free speech," said former Finance Minister Sam Rainsy, now president of the officially unrecognized Khmer Nation Party (KNP), which supports Burmese pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi.

"The police will try to stop us, but we are not afraid," he said. "We are not going to turn a blind eye to (human rights) violations (in Burma)."

General Than Shwe, chairman of Burma's State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), was scheduled to arrive Wednesday

for a four day state visit, during which he was to meet King Norodom Sihanouk and co-premiers Prince Norodom Ranariddh and Hun Sen.

As had been expected, Phnom Penh's municipal government earlier Tuesday officially banned the KNP march and First Prime Minister Prince Norodom Ranariddh said in a speech that the demonstration would interfere with Burma's internal affairs.

Speaking at KNP headquarters, which was festooned with banners reading "Burma Dictator Not Welcome" and "Suu Kyi a Model for Asia," Sam Rainsy said the three year-old Cambodian government should never have invited Than Shwe.

"This is a disturbing message that Cambodia sends to the rest of the world," he said, noting many of the countries responsible for Cambodia's 1993 election had serious concerns about the political situation in Burma.

"Those who hold (government) positions here, it is thanks to the international commitment," he said.

"We should support their ideals."

He also said Burma could not offer anything to Cambodia in terms of investment and suggested the trip was a desperate attempt by Rangoon to get some international recognition and support.

Sam Rainsy's comments followed objections to the visit raised by two outspoken members of the Cambodian Parliament in an open letter to Than Shwe released Monday.

"You and other members of SLORC do not deserve the honor of meeting His Majesty King Norodom Sihanouk," MPs Kem Sokha and Son Chhay wrote in the letter.

"The people of Cambodia have had enough experience with dictators and human rights violators," they said, referring to the brutal Khmer Rouge regime.

"We neither need nor want know violators from other countries on Cambodian soil."

The government's reasons for banning the march were unclear as some officials said the KNP had not properly applied for a demonstration permit and others said the march could affect national security.

But Sam Rainsy argued a permit was not necessary to exercise freedom of speech and said there was no threat to security as the March would be finished well before Than Shwe and his delegation arrived.

The short route of the march, to start about three hours before the delegation's arrival, suggested it could be over in less than an hour.

France Rebuffs U.S. Over Africa Row

PARIS — The French Foreign Ministry said Wednesday it considered "closed" a row with the United States over controversial remarks by a minister about a U.S. tour of Africa, saying they would not be retracted.

"This affair is closed. There is no polemic," said spokesman Jacques Rummelhardt, referring to the dispute over a French accusation that an African tour by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher was an electoral gimmick.

"We have already explained ourselves on this issue," he said, commenting on remarks by U.S. State Department Nicholas Burns, who said France should withdraw the comments by Cooperation Minister Jacques Godfrain.

Burns on Tuesday called for a retraction of the comments, in which Godfrain suggested Christopher's five-nation tour to Africa ending this week was an electoral ploy to woo black voters ahead of the November 5 election.

"This was a ludicrous charge made by someone who has not paid attention to what the United States has done. It ought to be retracted," Burns said, although conceding that it was unlikely.

Rummelhardt continued Wednesday: "They know the esteem that (French Foreign Minister) M. de Charette has for his colleague and friend Warren Christopher, and we have a full appreciation of the international role of the United States."

"I thank mister Burns for his elegant appreciation of France's role in the world, and in particular in Africa," he said, referring to Burns' comments made along with the stinging attack.

The offending comments which sparked the row were made by Godfrain last week, when Christopher was in the middle of his African tour.

He said: "I welcome the fact that, after Washington cut development aid by 15 percent, and after President Clinton has not been once to Africa, after he made no mention of Africa in his address to the UN General Assembly, a few weeks before presidential elections, Africa becomes a priority of the American government."

Lithuania Wants NATO Membership in 1997

BRUSSELS — Lithuanian President Algirdas Brazauskas on Wednesday made a strong plea for his country to join the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in 1997, during a meeting with NATO officials.

"Lithuania should be among the first new members of NATO. Lithuania is ready to be a reliable and active member," Brazauskas said in Brussels to the NATO Council, the alliance's highest political body.

"The membership is the only way for us to return to the community of Western nations which

share the common values of democracy, individual freedom and the rule of law," Brazauskas said.

In his appeal, Brazauskas was referring to a summit of NATO heads of state and government to take place in mid-1997, to decide which Eastern European countries should gain membership first.

Brazauskas rejected recent statements by U.S. Defense Secretary William Perry according to which the former Soviet republic does not yet have the military capacity to join NATO.

Questioned about Perry's comments, NATO Secretary General

Javier Solana said "no decision has been taken, no country has been ruled out."

Meanwhile the Lithuanian president said his country's defense budget would be doubled in 1997 in view of possible NATO membership.

He recalled that "Lithuania is already contributing to transatlantic security through maintaining good neighborly relations, continuing its democratic and economic reforms and by participating in the NATO-led peace implementation mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina."

Burma Denies Visa to Former President Aquino

MANILA — Burma has denied a visa to former Philippine President Corazon Aquino who has openly spoken out against Rangoon's ruling junta. Foreign Secretary Domingo Siazon said Tuesday.

"Ex-president Aquino applied on her own. As a private individual, they (Burmese authorities) can do that (reject her application)," Siazon told reporters at the presidential palace here.

He did not say when or where the visa application was denied or what kind of visa Aquino had applied for.

Asked if Manila can help the former president, Siazon said it would be difficult since her visa application had already been rejected.

Aquino, a widow who led a popular uprising that toppled dictator Ferdinand Marcos in 1986, has been vocal in her support of the

struggle of Burmese opposition leader Aung San Suu Kyi to bring about democratic reforms to Burma.

On Friday, Aquino urged international support for the Democracy Movement in Burma which has been locked in a bitter stalemate with the junta, officially known as the State Law and Order Restoration Council.

She made the remarks at a State Department ceremony in Washington during which she was awarded the J. William Fulbright prize for international understanding.

Aquino recalled that international support was crucial in bringing down Marcos, who had ruled the country for 20 years, 14 of them under martial law.

During her term as president, Aquino had also written to the Burmese junta to release Aung San Suu Kyi from jail.

Albania Arrests 14 Suspects in Alleged Plot Against President

TIRANA — Albanian police have arrested 14 people suspected of carrying out several attacks and planning to kill President Sali Berisha, authorities said Wednesday.

The 14 arrested late Tuesday belonged to an organization calling itself revenge of justice, which groups former senior figures from the country's communist era, the Albania newspaper reported.

The paper said the organization had planned to plant an explosive device on a bridge which Berisha was to drive across, though no date was specified.

The group is accused of masterminding several attacks, including a February car-bombing in which four people died and 20 were injured outside a Tirana supermarket.

Lebed Says Deputies Gave Him Cool Reception

MOSCOW — Deputies in Russia's Lower House of Parliament gave Russian National Security Chief Alexander Lebed a hostile reception Tuesday as they grilled him over his Chechen peace plans, the ex-general said.

Lebed, called before the state Duma to appear at closed-door hearings on the Chechen peace process, said the majority of deputies in Parliament were cool towards him and the peace deal he signed with separatists on August 31, Interfax news agency reported.

"In the Duma they tried to teach me a lesson," Lebed said. "It would appear all of a sudden that the restoration of peace in Chechnya does not suit everyone."

"They asked me insidious questions like, 'have you got a conscience,' or 'how many faces have

you got," Lebed said.

Two weeks ago, deputies savaged as "treason" the peace accord, publicly humiliating its architect Lebed.

"Nothing in Lebed's address (on Tuesday) served to lift the doubts born from the peace accord signed on August 31," said communist deputy, Alexander Kravets, emerging from the closed-door hearings on Tuesday.

The communists "are not satisfied with this accord, and even if Lebed had the courage to capitulate, it's still a capitulation," he said.

The Duma cannot block or oppose Lebed's peace deal, and must content itself with making recommendations to the government.

Opposition Party to Boycott Mauritania Run-Off

NOUAKCHOTT — Veteran opposition leader Ahmed Ould Daddah pulled his party out of Friday's second round of Mauritania's parliamentary election, alleging massive fraud in the first round.

Ould Daddah, runner-up to President Maouya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya in the Muslim West African country's 1992 presidential poll, announced the boycott on Sunday one day after the Interior Ministry announced a landslide win for the ruling Democratic and Social Republican Party.

His Union of Democratic Forces-New Era Party, once the main opposition party, lost in two southern strongholds in Friday's poll and in two in the capital Nouakchott. It was to contest two seats in Friday's runoff in Nouakchott.

"There was massive fraud...an industry of falsification," Ould Daddah told Reuters, confirming that the party would boycott the second round.

But the year-old action for change, the opposition party that did best in the first round, appeared likely to contest Friday's runoff.

The opposition boycotted the first multi-party legislative election in the Mauritania in 1992.

Opposition supporters denounced multiple voting by their rivals on Friday and said problems with voting cards prevented many from voting. Officials blamed administrative errors.

International observers spoke of "imperfections" on Friday, saying they could be put right before the second round.

Provisional results issued by the Interior Ministry on Saturday gave the ruling party 61 seats in the new assembly.

The pro-Taya Rally for Democracy and Unity and an independent each won one seat.

The Ruling Party is well placed in many of the 16 seats earmarked for the run-off. It will contest five against action for change, which

champions the rights of Black Africans and freed slaves in the former French colony straddling Arab and Black Africa, nine against independents.

Mauritania formally banned slavery in 1980.

Taya, a French-trained army colonel, seized power in a bloodless coup in 1984. He launched the Democratic Transition in 1991 and won a six-year term as president a year later.

Friday's first round was the first truly multi-party parliamentary poll. It also saw the election of Mauritania's first woman assembly member.

Half the 2.2 million people in the impoverished nation at the Atlantic fringe of the Sahara Desert were eligible to vote. Friday's turnout was 51.29 percent, but lower in Nouakchott.

Presidential elections must be held by January 1998.

China Warns U.S. Against Siding With Japan in Islands Dispute

BEIJING — China on Tuesday warned the United States against siding with Japan over contested islands in the East China Sea.

"There are differences between China and Japan, but they are bilateral differences," said Foreign Ministry Spokesman Shen Guofang. "No third party, whoever it is, must get involved."

Shen's comments to a media briefing follow a U.S. congressional report which said the United States would be required, under a 1971 Japanese-U.S. security treaty, to help the Japanese military defend the disputed islands if they were attacked by a third party.

The islands, known as the Senkaku group in Japanese and the Diaoyu Islands in Chinese, are claimed by China, Japan and Taiwan and have been at the center of anti-Japanese protests since Japanese nationalists built a lighthouse on one of them in July.

"The Chinese government declared in 1971 the absolute illegality of considering the Diaoyu as part of Japanese territory," Shen said.

"The Diaoyu are an inalienable part of Chinese territory, and on that issue our position is inflexible," he said, adding that any attempt to apply the Japan-U.S. treaty would be "a factor of regional instability."

British Envoy Calls For Direct Peace Talks in Cyprus

NICOSIA — Britain's peace envoy to Cyprus, Sir David Hannay, voiced hopes Monday of a meeting between Greek-Cypriot and Turkish-Cypriot leaders next year to prevent fresh outbreaks of violence on the divided island.

Hannay, who arrived Sunday just hours after a Greek-Cypriot civilian was shot dead by Turkish-Cypriot security forces, said he was optimistic a meeting could be arranged between President Glafcos Clerides and Turkish-Cypriot leader Rauf Denktaş.

"I am confident that there will be such a meeting in 1997," Hannay told reporters after talks with Clerides.

U.S. Over Africa Role

Is NATO Membership in 1997

ated Says Deputy

er Him Cool Reception

British Envoy Calls for Peace Talks

International Spectator

A Glance at International Events

World News
Wednesday, October 9

Leader Blasts U.S. for Supporting Latest Crimes of Zionists



Leader of Islamic Revolution Ayatollah Seyyed Ali Khamenei blasted the U.S. support for the latest crimes of Israel against the oppressed and defenseless Palestinian people.

Turkey Condemns U.S. for 'Inadmissible' Statement

Turkey lashed out Wednesday at the U.S. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns for the "inadmissible" remarks he made about a recent visit by Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan to Tripoli.

New President Pledges to Strengthen Bangladeshi Democracy



Hafeezuddin Ahmad was sworn in Wednesday as Bangladesh's President and pledged to strengthen democracy by bringing together the country's bitter political rivals.

Japan Opposing Sanctions Against Iran

The avenues of expanding ties between Iran and Japan and the crucial regional and international issues were discussed at a meeting between Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati and Japanese Foreign Ministry's Director-General Ichiro Nobuo.

Thursday, October 10

France Striving for Greater Role in NATO



France has been preoccupied with a new, prominent role when it returns to the integration into NATO's

THE UNIVERSITY OF JORDAN
SERIALS
SECTION

TEHRAN TIMES

Tehran Times Weekend Issue
THU, OCT. 17, 1996; MEHR 26, 1375; JAMADIAL-THANI 4, 1417

Iran Spectator

A Glance at National Events

The World This Week

military wing. There are some reports indicating French interest in closer military ties with NATO, particularly with NATO's regional command in Europe.

Canadian Law Against Helms-Burton to Take Effect Soon

A new Canadian law countering the U.S. Helms-Burton Law is likely to take effect in November, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday.

Chechen Spokesman Announces Election Plan

Chechen spokesman Movladi Udogov said that after a meeting of top officials and commanders outside Grozny Thursday that presidential and parliamentary elections would be held in Chechnya two to three months after a Russian pullout.

Moi Rules out Constitutional Review Before Election

Kenyan President Daniel Arap Moi Thursday ruled out comprehensive constitutional reforms before general elections due by the end of next year as demanded by the opposition and churches.

Friday, October 11

Taliban Renew Offer of Talks

The Taliban militia Friday renewed an offer to hold talks with factions opposed to them a day after three groups signed a mutual defense pact, the Afghan Islamic Press (AIP) reported Friday.

South African Legislators Pass New Constitution

An overwhelming majority of South African legislators Friday passed a revised version of the country's new constitution, which is aimed at entrenching democratic rule.

Bosnian Serb Premier Rules Out Integration of Divided Republic

Bosnian Serb Prime Minister Gorjo Kljickovic ruled out Friday any possibility that the two halves of divided Bosnia would ever be integrated. SRNA, his government's official news agency reported.

Saturday, October 12

Key Town Liberated by Forces Loyal to Ahmad Shah Masood



The ousted Afghan government retook Saturday the strategic town of Jolui Saraj north of here, while a second raiding party attacked the Taliban militia in nearby Charikar, sources in the area said.

Mandela Gives Christopher a Cool Reception

President Nelson Mandela asserted South Africa's leading role in Africa and firmly rejected unilateral cooperation with Washington when he received U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher Saturday.

Qatar Cancels Economic Visit to Israel

Qatar has cancelled an economic delegation's visit to Israel as part of measures aimed at freezing relations with the Zionist state, an Arab diplomat said Saturday.

Lebanon to File Complaint Against Israel's Wounding of Civilians

Lebanon decided Saturday to file a complaint to the five nation committee monitoring a cease-fire in South Lebanon to protest the Israeli shelling of a village that wounded 12 civilians, official source said.

Sunday, October 13

Israeli Soldiers Write to Netanyahu: You Are Dragging Us to War.



Thirty-three army officers and soldiers have written a joint letter to Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu complaining that his hardline policies were dragging Israel into "an unjustified war" it was reported Sunday.

PUK Retakes Sulaymaniah

The Patriotic Union of Kurdistan on Sunday recaptured Sulaymaniah without firing a shot at its Baghdad-backed Kurdish rival who

had fled the northern Iraq city two hours earlier, a UN spokesman said.

Masood Forces Reclaim Strategic Salang Valley

Ex-government forces reclaimed the strategic Salang Valley from the Taliban militia Sunday, inflicting a new blow on the fundamentalists who now run most of Afghanistan, travelers said.

Kuwait's PM Begins Forming New Cabinet

Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Saad al-Abdullah al-Sabah began consultations Sunday on forming a new cabinet after he was reappointed prime minister in the wake of last week's parliamentary elections.

Monday, October 14

Iran Not Militarily Involved in Afghanistan, Iraq

Iran on Monday denied playing any role in the inter-Kurdish fighting in which Patriotic Union of Kurdistan (PUK) recaptured the strategic town of Soleymanli.

Yasser Arafat Woos fallen Prime Minister Shimon Peres



Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat met with the former Prime Minister Shimon Peres in Nablus. The two Oslo Peace Accord makers had lunch and a long discussion before answering reporters' questions. Peres urged Palestinians not to lose hope. "I don't think the peace process is in danger, but it is facing certain difficulties," he said.

Fierce Fighting to Drive Taliban out of Kabul May Start Soon



Fighting between the Taliban militia and forces loyal to the ousted Afghan government raged near Kabul on Monday, putting the city under pressure for the first time since it fell to the radical fundamentalists three weeks ago.

Belgian Judge Urges Calm Before Ruling in Pedophilia Case



Jean-Marc Connerotte, examining magistrate in Douroux pedophilia and murder case, appealed for calm on Monday ahead of ruling on whether he and chief prosecutor Michel Bourlet should be removed from the case go the grounds of bias.

Tuesday, October 15

Muslim Rebels Ready For Peace

Muslim guerrillas in the southern Philippines said Tuesday they were ready to begin formal peace negotiations with the government despite a major firefight which killed 10 people near here last weekend.

Local News

Wednesday, October 9

1,000 More Refugees Enter Iran

Another 1,000 Iraqi Kurdish refugees entered Iran through Chuman border strip, in Baneh, western Iran on Tuesday.

Friday, October 11

Global Arrogance Trying to Distort Image of Islam by Supporting Taliban



Global arrogance, by supporting Taliban and calling the militia as "pious" is attempting to portray Islam as a harsh system, said senior alim Ayatollah Mohammad Emami Kashani Friday.

Saturday, October 12

Holders of Illegal Arms Considered Culprits From Monday

The Interior Ministry's Director General for Security Affairs, Amir-Hossein Moushkar, an-

nounced at a news conference on Saturday that some 75 percent of the holders of illegal arms and ammunition have been identified by the security and law enforcement forces through information received from the people.

Sunday, October 13

Yearly 500 Iranian Students Apply to Return Home

Higher Education Ministry's Director General of Domestic Students Affairs, Rahmatollah Noranipour, said that each year 500 students studying in universities abroad apply to continue their studies at home.

Monday, October 14

President Stresses Strengthening of Int'l Cooperation for Standard



President Hojatoleslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani described standard as a correct path and a good and humane service at international scale, stressing the need for strengthening of international cooperation in this respect.

Iranian Merchant Fleet Handles 2.2 m Tons of Goods Annually

Iran's merchant fleet, with a total of 75 vessels, is capable of handling 2.2 million tons of goods annually. Head of Iran's Shipping Organization Mostafa Al-e-Eshaq said in an interview published in the latest issue of the monthly magazine "Payam-e-Darya" (Message of the Sea).

Tuesday, October 15

President: Iran to Contribute to Development Projects Abroad

President Hojatoleslam Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani told the high council for coordinating export of technical services here today that the Islamic Republic should endeavor to contribute to development projects in other parts of the world.

Programs Underway To Boost Higher Education In Second Plan

Minister of Higher Education Mohammad Reza Hashemi Golpaygani announced that his ministry intends to boost higher education in the Second Five-Year Development Plan in order to minimize cultural and scientific reliance on other countries.

1375/26

When to Be a Don't Know

As prevalent as the common cold, and almost as unpleasant, are those know-alls who turn off conversation and shut their own minds by saying, glibly, "I know," when someone else introduces an interesting subject. I should know—I was one of them.

But I learned my lesson one evening at a dinner given by the wife of a well-known chef. The woman was tense and nervous as one of the other guests and I stood talking to her. She pointed to a black metal object on a table that looked like a weird kind of electric saucepan. "That's rather special," she said. "It's used for raclette. Do you know it?"

I was about to say that I did when the man beside me said, "No, I don't. What is it—a new way to cook steaks?"

Our hostess's smile was a sight to behold. As she explained how the gadget worked, she blossomed—and I learned. Raclette was not the open, melted Swiss-cheese sandwich I thought it was, but a variation of fondue in which Swiss cheese is melted to just proper degree of softness so that it can be scraped on to a plate to be served with small boiled potatoes and gherkins. But, more important than learning that I didn't know

what I thought I knew was the spotlighting of one of my own shortcomings. I was pretty sure that the man standing beside me, a world traveler who was adept in the kitchen, knew what raclette was. He also knew something that I didn't: how and when to tactfully say, "I don't know," and thus give others a chance to shine.

But I did know the next time. We have a neighbor who, partially because of a physical handicap, rarely contributes to a conversation in any gathering. This night she brought us a gift of an odd-looking vegetable—slender,

seed company had spent years developing the digestible cucumber, and watched our introverted friend relax and enjoy herself.

Not long after I thought that I had acquired this new wisdom of open mind and closed mouth. I was sitting beside a farmer friend at a local meeting where there was a lengthy discourse on cows, milk prices and farmers' incentives by a city man who had recently moved to our small town and had political ambitions.

After the meeting ended, I said to my friend, "You know all about cows and what the farmer needs.

time visiting the sick in the hospital, bringing reading material and little presents. By not inserting my own opinions into the conversation, I wiped away a bigoted belief and realized that I and others had let this man's wealth and reserve

into their shells.

Open our own minds, give them new vistas. Socrates once phrased the way to open-mindedness most succinctly: "As for me, all I know is that I know nothing." He has latter-day disciples.

Sounds sensible and less work. When you turn it out on the plate, it will look the same anyway. I'm going to give it a try." That's the difference between a great chef and an ordinary one who smugly knows everything.

One subject about which I thought I knew something was India, especially its jungles, where I used to go to study wild animals. But, taking a lead from Antoine Gilly, instead of talking about what I knew to a man who had also spent considerable time there, I listened while he opened up a whole new vista—an area in the foothills of the Himalayas, only 100 miles from Chinese Tibet—that I'd never seen. What I learned by not closing my mind eventually became part of a successful novel, *Elephant Grass*.

In *The Hawthorn Journals*, writer Stephen Marlowe has a character express my theme in sharp focus: "It's a good feeling not being sure. I heard enough pat answers today to last me a lifetime. I'm beginning to think that the nicest sound in the English language is the three words 'I don't know.' Because it gives you a place to start. To wonder, maybe. To see the sense of mystery in every human life."

When Harry Truman was President of the United States, he summed up all I want to say with a few piquant words. Commenting on the attitude of many recent graduates who were still young enough to know everything, he said, "I always try to tell them that it's what you learn after you know it all that really counts."

(Courtesy the Reader's Digest)



paint the wrong picture of him. Today that retired banker is a close friend and valued confidant.

Draw inhibited people out of their shells. The burpless-cucumber conversation is a good example. Tact is the technique. By knowing too much about what others know, and expressing it, you may push shy people deeper

into their shells. Antoine Gilly, one of the great French chefs, is often bearded by those who want to pass on "fantastic" secrets. Once I listened to a woman talk to him for 20 minutes about how she cooked omelettes. Afterwards, he smiled and said, "You know, I've never used her technique. She pushes the omelette into form, never flips it.

HARD ON HEAVYWEIGHTS

Do overweight patients get less sympathy from their doctors? Yes, say a large number of heavy people who were surveyed. Independent researchers at the University of Vermont confirm this grievance—and by and large, the medical community seems prejudiced against chronically heavyweight patients. There is a tendency to take their aches and pains less seriously.

Researchers also observe a subtle dislike in the doctors' manner, stemming from outdated in-

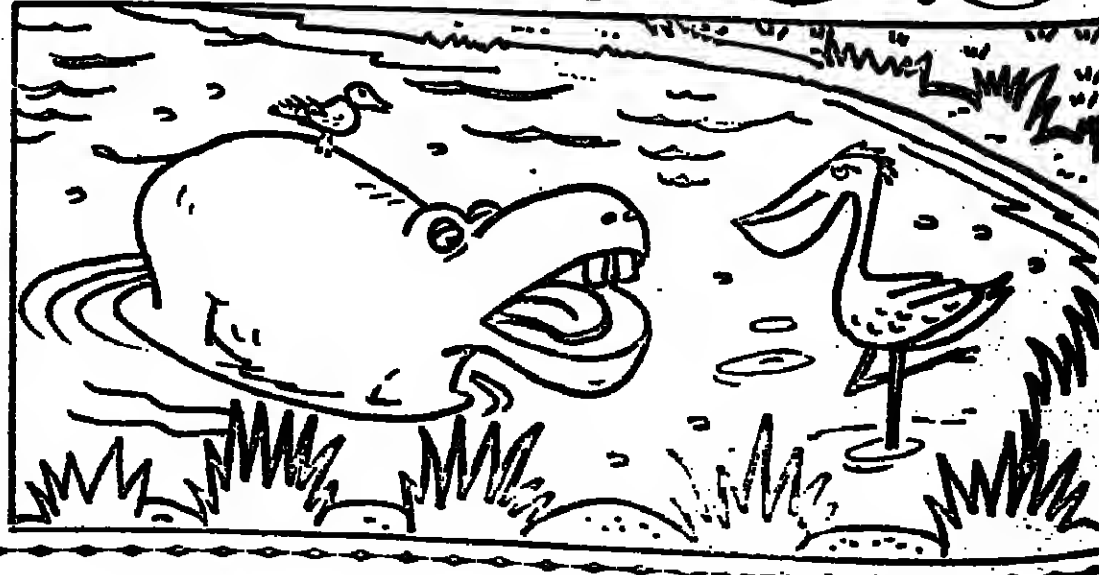
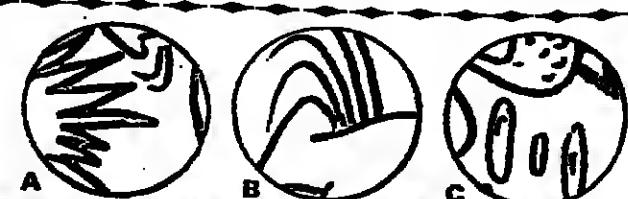
formation that obesity only comes from gluttony and laziness. The disapproval sends obese people into bouts of self-hatred and depression, and many seek solace in an eating binge. More alarming is the fact that they shy away from seeking medical attention.

"Shed all that weight right away" is a tough and sometimes unrealistic prescription that fat people get from doctors. The idea that people can totally control body-fat is too simplistic because about half the weight variation

between individuals is genetic, says modern thinking on obesity. Yet, a 100-kg person is made to believe that he will remain healthy till he comes down to his weight-chart ideal of 70 kg. Such distant goals are so discouraging that many people do not even try. Experts believe that patients should be informed that even small losses are beneficial and asked to lose only 10 percent of their total weight at a time. Obesity-related health risks start when a person is 20 percent above average weight.

On Circles

Can you tell which of the circled sections A-C has been taken from this drawing?



(Solution Next Thursday)

Entertaining in Style

Ginger Biscuit Roll



You will need...

1/2 pint double cream
8 oz. ginger biscuits
For the decoration:
crystallized or stem ginger

Preparation time
10 minutes

Put half the cream in a bowl and whisk until it forms fairly stiff peaks. Use it to sandwich the ginger biscuits together in a long roll.

Arrange the roll on a serving dish and leave in the refrigerator or some other cool place overnight. Next day whip the remaining cream and use it to cover the ginger biscuit roll completely. Decorate the roll with small pieces or slices of crystallized or stem ginger. Cut diagonal pieces from the loaf shape or cut into slices.

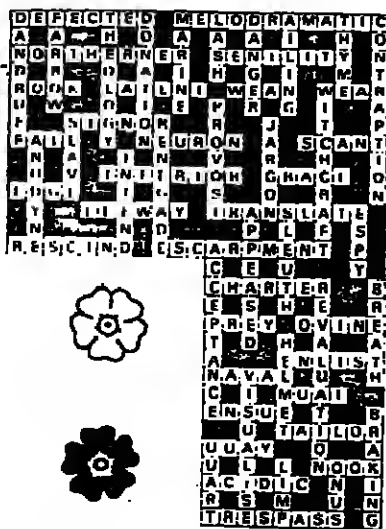
Serves 4

QUICK TIP

Another simple yet special recipe on the same lines—soak Marie biscuits in coffee essence then sandwich together with cream. Leave overnight then cover with cream. Decorate with halved walnuts.



Answers to Last Week's CRISS-CROSS



Feature

Facets of Countries

Spotlight: Bangladesh

Bangladesh's Golden Products: Tea and Jute



A tea plantation in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh has inherited the southernmost slopes of the fertile, famous tea-growing hills rolling down from the Assam region and commonly known as the Surma Valley. Once, these foothills, abounded with buffalos, elephants and leopards. The place is where the ferocious and majestic Royal Bengal Tiger roamed more than a century ago before man moved down from the north, clearing the forest, setting up human abodes and turning the rich valley slopes into tea plantations.

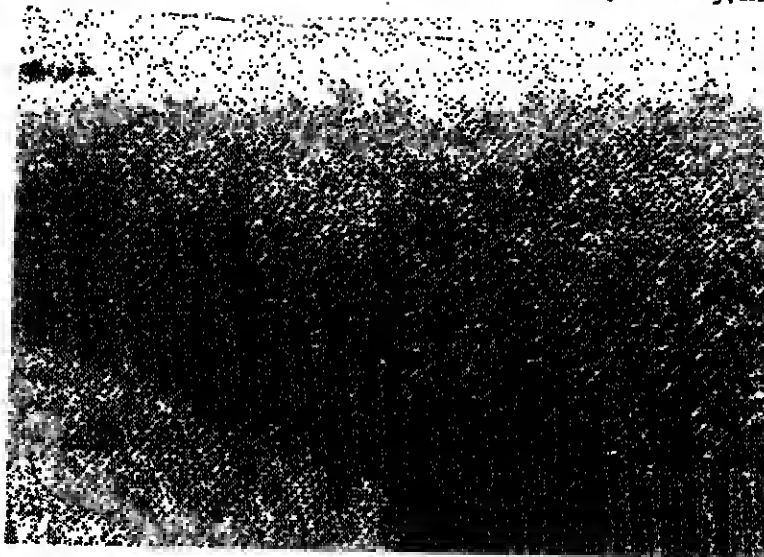
The golden tip of the Royal Bengal Tiger's tail retreated to the south as the golden tips of tea became ripe for plucking in Bangladesh around the mid-19th century. In fact, the

are hessian, sacking, carpet backing, canvas and tarpaulin.

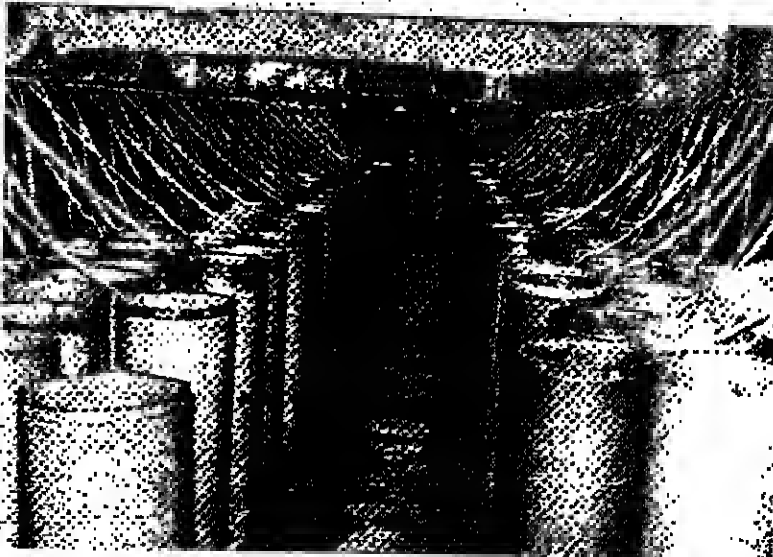
Hessian cloth is light, plain weave (single warp), of various weights and widths. Cloth is cut to various sizes and sewn to make bags of different sizes. Hessian cloth itself is used for covering or wrapping and hessian bags are used for packing various items.

Sacking cloth is normally heavy, plain (double warp) weave of various widths and weights. The cloth, usually of the Twill-weave, is sewn as bags or sacks to pack grains, cereals, etc.

Carpet backing cloth is light or medium heavy, plain weave, sometimes of sateen weave. Plied yarns are used in the carpet industry, either



Mature jute plants ready for harvest.



Jute yarn being spun into spools.

first experimental tea plantation was carried out in the slopes of Chitragong in 1840 and Malnichera was the first commercial tea estate which went into production in mid-1850.

It did not take long for Bangladesh tea to establish its name in the London Tea Auction and among tea tasters and consumers. But the production of tea in those days was still in its primitive phase, each harvest being carried to ocean-going vessels in the Bay of Bengal by boats navigating an intricate network of rivers.

As we approach the 21st century, there is more to Bangladesh's tea-growing industry than a heritage Bangladeshis can be proud of. Soils are being improved. Plantations are

producing higher yields of the finest quality teas. The workforce—dependents of the original tea planters and pluckers—are being cared for. In general, the industry is flourishing as Bangladesh tea gains in prestige from season to season, auction to auction. The aroma of the golden

tips of Bangladesh tea are now enjoyed by millions of tea consumers around the world. For Bangladesh, the production of tea that delights the soul is an age-old tradition.

Another world-renowned product of Bangladesh is jute. Jute yarn is usually spun in machine from jute fiber of either the tossa, white or the mestha variety.

Mature jute plants reach a height of from 6 feet to 15 feet and are of different diameters. The plants mature in 95-110 days and are cut at the roots. The green leaves are taken out and the plants are gathered into bundles. The bundles are submerged under water for 10-15 days until they rot and the fibers become easy to separate from the stalk of the plant.

The quality, characteristics and standard of jute yarn depends on the class and grade of the jute fiber from which the yarn is spun. Jute yarn is the raw material for weaving jute cloth, the principal classes of which

as binder or for stuffing.

Canvas is a very heavy woven cloth and so is the tarpaulin. Thick yarns are also used as cable yarns.

Many other classes of cloths are woven from jute yarn and named differently in different countries. But the principal exporter of raw jute products is Bangladesh.

Jute production is environmentally healthy and considered free from health hazards. (Courtesy of *Natural Wealth of Bangladesh*, a publication of The Globe Traders Jute International, 1996.)

Brain Teaser

About Turn

The missing words are anagrams of each other.

Over mountains, down through glens,
They came in fives, they came in

Old men, young men, fathers, sons,

Some had rifles, some ... guns,

Mothers ... their only boys

Armed with ..., straight from their toys,

The prize was massive, hence the zest,

To trap the oajah, in its ...!

(Answers will appear next week.)

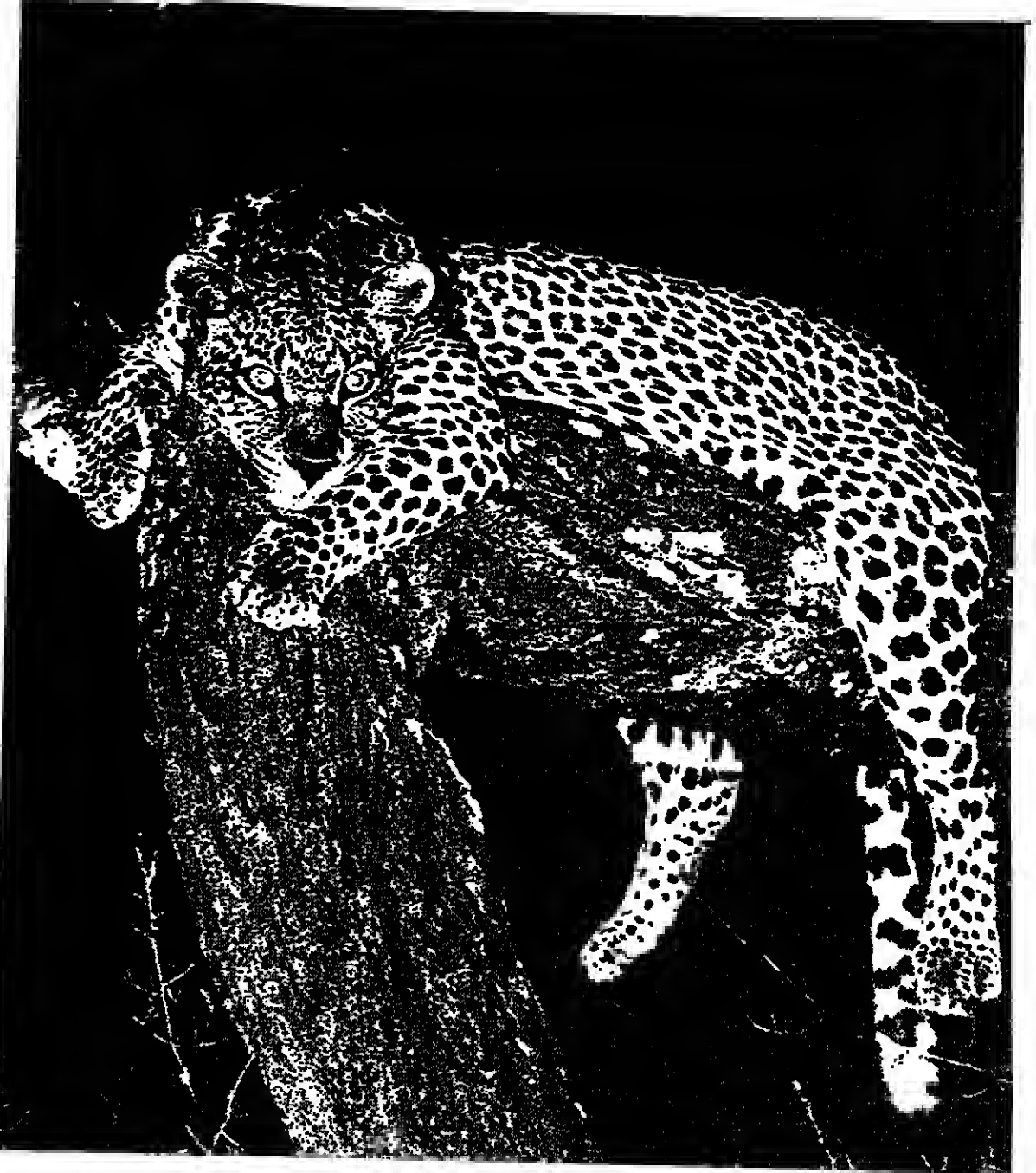
Answer to last week's

brain teaser:

2 of a set of triplets or quintuplets.

Travelogue

Where the Lions Roam Free



A leopard takes a break from an all-night hunting expedition at Kruger National Park.

South Africa is home to most of the world's most fascinating wildlife. Abundant wildlife and scenic beauty are major drawcards for tourists and can be observed in a network of game parks and nature reserves all over the country and along its 3,000 km coastline.

Six ecological regions mirror South Africa's wildlife splendor and geographical range.

The Savanna Biome, consisting of grassland and trees, incorporates the Northern Cape and Kalahari, the Central Bushveld and the Valley Bushveld to the south. The Kruger National Park, the Kalahari Gemsbok National Park, and the Umfolozi and Hluhluwe reserves fall within its boundaries. The Kruger National Park includes the "big five"—the buffalo, elephant, leopard, lion and rhinoceros.

The Nama-Karoo Biome combines the Namaland area of Namibia and the Karoo area of South Africa. The Karoo and the Augrabies National Parks are part of this semi-desert—home to the bat-eared fox, black-backed jackal, ostrich and suricate.

The Grassland Biome has summer rainfall with heavy thunderstorms, while frost occurs in winter. Perennial rivers are the Orange, Vaal and Pongola. Trees are scarce. The black wildebeest, blesbok and eland are endemic to the region. The Natal Drakensburg wilderness areas are part of the Biome.

The Northern Cape winter rainfall area or Succulent Karoo Biome has dry summers with scorching temperatures. Once a year, Namaqualand wild flowers cover the semi-desert with a multi-colored spring carpet. National parks in this area are the Richtersveld and

Tankwa-Karoo.

The Pynbos Biome is one of six floral kingdoms of the world. More than 8,500 fynbos species, such as proteas, ericas and heathers, grow within an area of 70,000 km square in the Western Cape—a winter rainfall region with a Mediterranean climate.

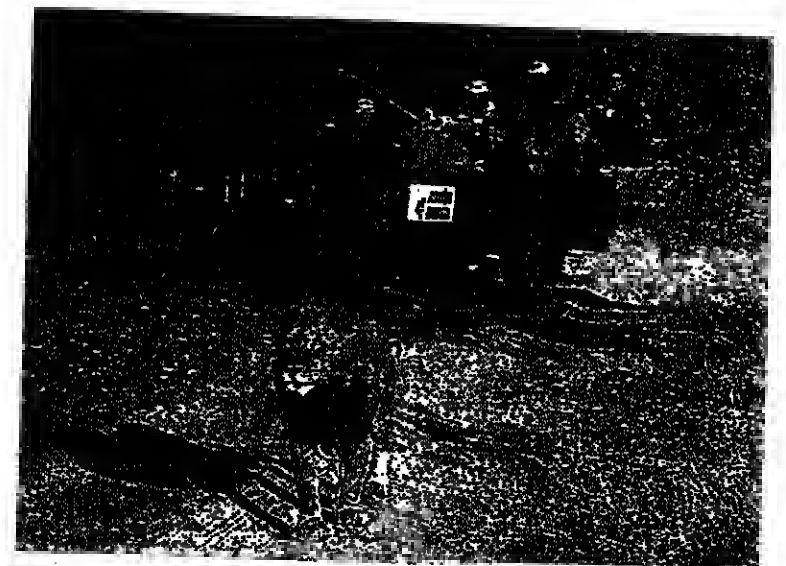
The Forest Biome includes the Western Cape Knysna forest and the Eastern Cape Tsitsikamma forest where yellowwood and ironwood giants, fungi and lichens thrive in the humid climate. This is the habitat of the Knysna louse, Cape parrot, semang monkey, bushpig and blue ducker.

But for all it has to offer, South Africa remains undeveloped as a tourist mecca. Only three percent of South Africa's GNP is generated by tourism against a world average of six percent. Research shows that for every 30 additional tourists visiting South Africa and neighboring coun-

tries, one direct job is created, with an additional two indirectly.

In 1993, some 600,000 overseas tourists entered South Africa and the following year it became a member of the World Tourism Organization (WTO).

Ecotourism remains the biggest attraction to tourists. One of the world's rewarding tourist destinations, South Africa unlocks the natural and cultural assets of its environment to the visitor while generating foreign exchange income for the promotion and conservation of its ecological resources. Tourists enjoy lots of bird and animal watching, nature photography, hiking and mountaineering, visits to cultural heritage villages and sites of Bushmen paintings. (Courtesy of *This is South Africa*, a publication of the South African Communication Service, 1995.)



Foreign tourists at the Atala Muli game lodge in close range of the "king of the jungle."

تجارت و بازرگانی

CANDID CAMERA

Photo: Abbas Kowar



TOMORROW IN HISTORY

- 1944 - Soviet troops invaded Czechoslovakia during World War II.
- 1969 - The Federal government banned artificial sweeteners known as cyclamates because of evidence they caused cancer in laboratory rats.
- 1982 - Former first lady Bess Truman died at her home in Independence, Missouri, at age 97.
- 1983 - General Motors Corp. agreed to hire more women and minorities for the next five years as part of a settlement with the U.S. equal employment opportunity commission.
- 1988 - Maurice Allais of France won the Nobel Prize in economics.
- 1992 - The opening ceremony of world series baseball was marred when a U.S. marine corps color guard presented the Canadian flag upside-down, prompting the marines and President Bush to apologize.
- 1993 - UN oil embargo takes effect against Haiti.
- 1994 - The first boat people to come back since President Jean-Bertrand Aristide returned from exile, joyfully enter a new Haiti, while angry Haitians beat up a former oppressor.



- 1937 - Riots erupt in Sudean area of Czechoslovakia.
- 1945 - Colonel Juan Peron stages coup in Buenos Aires and becomes absolute dictator of Argentina.
- 1972 - President Chung Hec Park declares martial law in South Korea.
- 1977 - West German commandos storm hijacked Lufthansa Airliner at airport in Somalia and free all 86 hostages aboard.
- 1987 - Tamil snipers attack Indian soldiers as they advance on rebel stronghold of Jaffna in Sri Lanka.
- 1988 - Yugoslavia's Communist Party chief calls for "fundamental renewal of socialism" to halt social unrest.
- 1989 - Earthquake strikes northern California killing more than 60 people.
- 1990 - U.S. and Kuwait officials reject compromise offer from Saddam Hussein, whereby Iraq would pull troops out of most of Kuwait.
- 1991 - NATO defense chiefs reach decision to cut their nuclear arsenal in Europe by 80 percent, effective immediately.

By Carson McCullers

The jockey came to the doorway of the dining room, then after a moment stepped to one side and stood motionless, with his back to the wall. The room was crowded, as this was the third day of the season and all the hotels were full. In the dining room bouquets of August roses scattered their petals on the white table linen and from the adjoining bar came a warm, drunken wash of voices. The jockey waited with his back to the wall and scrutinized the room with pinched, creepy eyes. He examined the room until at last his eyes reached a table in a corner diagonally across from him at which three men were sitting. As he watched, the jockey raised his chin and tilted his head back to one side, his dwarfed body grew rigid, and his hands stiffened so that the fingers curled inward like gray claws. Tense against the wall of the dining room, he watched and waited in this way.

He was wearing a suit of green Chinese silk that evening, tailored precisely and the size of a costume for a child. The shirt was yellow, the tie striped with pastel colors. He had no hat with him and wore his hair brushed down in a stiff, wet bang on his forehead. His face was drawn, ageless, and gray. There were shadowed hollows at his temples and his mouth was set in a wry smile. After a time he was aware that he had been seen by one of the three men he had been watching. But the jockey did not nod; he only raised his chin still higher and hooked the thumb of his tense hand in the pocket of his coat.

The three men at the corner table were a trainer, a bookie, and a rich

man. The trainer was Sylvester — a large, loosely built fellow with a flushed nose and slow blue eyes. The bookie was Simmons. The rich man was the owner of a horse named Seltzer, which the jockey had ridden that afternoon. The three of them drank soda, and a white-coated waiter had just brought on the main course of the dinner.

It was Sylvester who first saw the jockey. He looked away quickly, put down his glass, and nervously mashed the tip of his red nose with his thumb. "It's Betsy Barlow," he said. "Standing over there across the room. Just watching us."

"Oh, the jockey," said the rich man. He was facing the wall and he half turned his head to look behind him. "Ask him over."

"God no," Sylvester said.

"He's crazy," Simmons said. The bookie's voice was flat and without inflection. He had the face of a born gambler, carefully adjusted, the expression a permanent deadlock between fear and greed.

"Well, I wouldn't call him that exactly," said Sylvester. "I've known him a long time. He was O.K. until about six months ago. But if he goes on like this, I can't see him lasting another year. I just can't."

"It was what happened in Miami," said Simmons.

"What?" asked the rich man.

Sylvester glanced across the room at the jockey and wet the corner of his mouth with his red, fleshy tongue. "An accident. A kid got hurt on the track. Broke a leg and a hip. He was a particular pal of Betsy's. A Irish kid. Not a bad rider, either."

"That's a pity," said the rich man.

"Yeah. They were particular friends," Sylvester said. "You would always find him up in Betsy's hotel room. They would be playing cards or else lying on the floor reading the sports page together."

"Well, those things happen," said the rich man.

Simmons cut into his beefsteak. He held his fork prongs downward on the plate and carefully piled on mushrooms with the blade of his knife. "He's crazy," he repeated.

"He gives me the creeps."

All the tables in the dining room were occupied. There was a party at the banquet table in the center, and green-white August moths had found their way in from the night and fluttered about the clear candle flames. Two girls wearing flannel slacks and blazers walked arm in arm across the room into the dining room. From the main street outside came the echoes of holiday hysteria.

"They claim that in August Saratoga is the wealthiest town per capita in the world," Sylvester turned to the rich man. "What do you think?"

"I wouldn't know," said the rich man. "It may very well be so."

Daintily, Simmons wiped his greasy mouth with the tip of his forefinger. "How about Hollywood? And Wall Street—"

The Jockey

"Wait, said Sylvester. "He's decided to come over here."

The jockey had left the wall and was approaching the table in the corner. He walked with a prim strut, swinging out his legs in a half-circle with each step, his heels biting smartly into the red velvet carpet on the floor. On the way over he brushed against the elbow of a fat woman in white stain at the banquet table; he stepped back and bowed with dandified courtesy, his eyes quite closed. When he had crossed the room he drew up a chair and sat at a corner of the table, between Sylvester and the rich man, without a nod of greeting or a change in his set, gray face.

"Had dinner?" Sylvester asked. "Some people might call it that." The jockey's voice was high, bitter, clear.

Sylvester put his knife and fork down carefully on his plate. The rich man shifted his position, turning sideways in his chair and crossing his legs. He was dressed in twill riding pants, unpolished boots, and a shabby brown jacket — this was his outfit day and night in the racing season, although he was never seen on a horse. Simmons went on with his dinner.

"Like a spot of seltzer water?" asked Sylvester. "Or something

like that?"

The jockey didn't answer. He drew a gold cigarette case from his pocket and snapped it open. Inside were a few cigarettes and a tiny gold penknife. He used the knife to cut a cigarette in half. When he had lighted his smoke he held up his hand to waiter passing by the table. "Kentucky bourbon, please."

"Now, listen, Kid," said Sylvester.

"Don't kid me."

"Be reasonable. You know you got to behave reasonable."

The jockey drew up the left corner of his mouth in a stiff jerk. His eyes lowered to the food spread out on the table, but instantly he looked up again. Before the rich man was a fish casserole, baked in a cream sauce and garnished with parsley. Sylvester had ordered eggs Benedict. There was asparagus,

fresh buttered corn, and a side dish of wet black olives. A plate of French-fried potatoes was in the corner of the table before the jockey. He didn't look at the food again, but kept his pinched eyes on the centerpiece of full-blown lavender roses. "I don't suppose you remember a certain person by the name of McGuire," he said.

"Now, listen," said Sylvester.

The waiter brought the drink, and the jockey sat fondling the glass with his small, strong, calloused hands. On his wrist was a gold link bracelet that clinked against the table edge. After turning the glass between his palms, the jockey suddenly drank the cocktail neat in two hard swallows. He set down the glass sharply. "No, I don't suppose your memory is that long and extensive," he said.

"Sure enough, Bitsy," said Sylvester. "What makes you act like this? You hear from the kid today?"

"I received a letter," the jockey said. "The certain person we were speaking about was taken out from the east on Wednesday. One leg is two inches shorter than the other one. That's all."

Sylvester checked his tongue and shook his head. "I realize how you feel."

"Do you?" The jockey was looking at the dishes on the table. His gaze passed from the fish casserole to the corn, and finally fixed on the plate of fried potatoes. His face tightened and quickly he looked up again. A rose shattered and he picked up one of the petals, bruised it between his thumb and forefinger, and put it in his mouth.

"Well, those things happen," said the rich man.

The trainer and the bookie had finished eating, but there was food left on the serving dishes before their plates. The rich man dipped his buttery fingers in his water glass and wiped them with his napkin.

"Well," said the jockey. "Doesn't somebody want me to pass them something? Or maybe perhaps you desire to reorder. Another hunk of beefsteak, gentlemen, or—"

"Please," said Sylvester. "Be reasonable. Why don't you go on upstairs?"

"Yes, why don't I?" the jockey said.

His prim voice had risen higher and there was about it the sharp whine of hysteria.

"Why don't I go up to my god-damn room and wait around and write some letters and go to bed like a good boy? Why don't I just—?" He pushed his chair back and got up. "Oh, foo," he said. "Foo to you. I want a drink."

"All I can say is it's your funeral," said Sylvester. "You know what it does to you. You know well enough."

The jockey crossed the dining room and went into the bar. He ordered a drink and Sylvester watched him stand with his heels pressed tight together, his body hard as a lead soldier's, holding his little finger out from the drink glass and sipping the drink slowly.

"He's crazy," said Simmons.

"Like I said."

Sylvester turned to the rich man. "If he eats a lamb chop, you can see the shape of it in his stomach an hour afterward. He can't sweat things out of him any more. He's a hundred and twelve and a half. He's gained three pounds since we left

Miami."

"A jockey shouldn't drink," said the rich man.

"The food don't satisfy him like it used to and he can't sweat it out. If he eats a lamb chop, you can watch it cooking out in his stomach and it don't go down."

The jockey finished his drink. He swallowed, crushed the cherry in the bottom of the glass with his thumb, then pushed the glass away from him. The two girls in blazers were standing at his left, their faces toward each other, and at the other end of the dining room two touts had started an argument about which was the highest mountain in the world. Everyone was with somebody else; there was no other person drinking alone that night. The jockey paid with a brand-new fifty-dollar bill and didn't count the change.

He walked back to the dining-room and to the table at which the three men were sitting, but he did not sit down. "No, I wouldn't presume to think your memory is that extensive," he said. He was so small that the edge of the table top reached almost to his belt, and when he gripped the corner with his wiry hands he didn't have to stoop. "No, you're too busy gobbling up dinners in dining rooms. You're too—"

"Honestly," begged Sylvester.

"You got to behave reasonable."

"Reasonable! Reasonable!" The jockey's gray face quivered, then set in a mean, frozen grin. He shook the table so that the plates rattled, and for a moment it seemed that he would push it over. But suddenly he stopped. His hand reached out toward the plate nearest to him and deliberately he put a few of the French-fried potatoes in his mouth. He chewed slowly, his upper lip raised, then he turned and spat out the pulpy mouthful on the smooth red carpet which covered the floor. "Libertines," he said again, and turned and walked with his rigid swagger out of the dining room.

Sylvester shrugged one of his loose, heavy shoulders. The rich man sipped up some water that had been spilled on the tablecloth, and they didn't speak until the waiter came to clear away.

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